FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

22 NOVEMBER 1983

PLO Affairs

North Lebanon Cease-Fire — A "guarded calm" prevails around the positions of besieged PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's supporters in Al-Baddawi and Tripoli following the declaration of a cease-fire in the afternoon of 21 November, sources cited by Beirut radio reported, attributing the relative quiet to a "temporary 4-day truce." SANA cited a Fatah dissident spokesman's announcement of a cease-fire on the part of the dissident forces, while SPA reported that 'Arafat had accepted an Arab League initiative to stop the fighting.

Earlier Fighting — Before the cease-fire came into effect, 'Arafat sent a message — broadcast by San'a' Voice of Palestine radio — to Arab heads of state, telling them of the Syrian and dissident forces' "diabolical and random bombardment" of Tripoli. The message also described a Syrian attack against areas exclusively occupied by "Lebanese Islamic and nationalist forces and the popular militias." San'a' Voice of Palestine reported Syrian and dissident forces' shelling of Tripoli and Al-Baddawi and attempts to advance "along all the axes in Tripoli," but said that pro-'Arafat forces had "engaged the attackers and repulsed them." The dissident-controlled Turbul Voice of Palestinian Revolution radio reported that dissident forces had advanced to within a few meters of 'Arafat's headquarters in Tripoli.

Reconciliation Efforts — The PFLP-DFLP joint command again called for a cease-fire between the warring factions in northern Lebanon in a "political initiative" reported by KUNA. Meanwhile, a Nonaligned Movement delegation composed of the foreign ministers of India, Yugoslavia, and Cuba and Senegal's UN ambassador arrived in Kuwait on the first leg of a tour of the region aimed at mediating among the Palestinian factions, according to KUNA. From Kuwait the delegation is to continue to Damascus, the agency added.

Lebanon

Military Situation — Army positions in Suq al-Gharb and the mountain region continued to come under both shelling and small arms fire, according to the Voice of Lebanon and Beirut radio. Intermittent clashes took place around Army positions in the southern suburbs of Beirut, the radios added. Three separate explosions occurred in shops in the capital, wounding two and damaging several vehicles, Beirut radio reported.

In another development, the Voice of Lebanon reported that the Islamic fundamentalist "Hezbollah" is planning operations against French interests in Beirut in retaliation for the 18 November air strikes against targets in the Al-Biqa'.

Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt has banned the spiritual leader of the Druze community from making any political statement or holding any meeting without Junblatt's approval, according to the Voice of Lebanon. Meanwhile, Junblatt traveled to Algeria for talks with political leaders, APS and Algiers radio stated.

Syria

Soviet Support — The Soviet ambassador to Syria reiterated his country's "support and complete backing for Syria's just struggle" against "imperialist-Zionist schemes of hegemony" and stated that the USSR and Syria "agree completely" in their analyses of the current international situation, Damascus radio reported.

Military Exercise — An armored formation and various ground forces, aircraft, and helicopters took part in a "live tactical exercise" that simulated the concentration of forces at the front lines, an attack on enemy positions, and the capture and occupation of those positions. The exercise, which was reported by Damascus radio, was attended by Ba'th Party Regional Command member Rif'at al-Asad and the deputy chief of staff.

Iran-Iraq Dispute

Iraqi Trade Minister Hasan 'Ali met with Japanese Foreign Minister Abe Shintaro in Tokyo, INA reported, but "could not promise" that Iraq would not attack the joint petrochemical complex in southern Iran unless Iran and Iraq reach an agreement not to attack nongovernment facilities, according to KYODO. Remarking on Iranian threats to close the Strait of Hormuz if its access to the Gulf is closed, Omani Information Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz ar-Rawwas said in a press statement, reported by WAKH, that the Gulf countries have the capability to "confront any side" that may undertake action that would undermine their interests and that Oman would "not stand idly by" in the face of an Iranian attempt to block the strait.

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Uprising Movement Declares Cease-Fire in Tripoli

NC211511 Turbul Lebanon Voice of Palestinian Revolution in Arabic 1450 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Statement by official spokesman of Palestinian uprising — read by announcer]

[Text] In response to the appeal made by Shaykh Hasan Khalid, the mufti of the Lebanese Republic, following the meeting of Islamic leaders in Beirut and the appeal by former Prime Minister Rashid Karami, and out of our desire to safeguard the citizens' lives and their property, the uprising movement declares, as it has repeatedly done, that it has not been and will not be the first to begin the fighting in the north.

The uprising movement once again declares its good will toward the Tripoli masses and Palestinians in the north and announces unilaterally that it ceases fire and holds the 'Arafat's side, which turned Tripoli into an arena for its retaliatory military operations, responsible for any renewal of the fighting or any violation of the cease-fire.

'Arafat Said To Accept Arab League Proposal

LD212109 Riyadh SPA in English 1941 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] Tunis, Nov 21, SPA — Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), has accepted an Arab League's initiative to stop inter-Palestinian fighting in north Tripoli and put an end to the deteriorating situation in the region, it was reported here today. An urgent dispatch issued by Palestinian news agency WAFA said the approval came in a cable received by the league's secretary-general Chedli Klibi in reply to an urgent message sent earlier to 'Arafat including the details of the initiative.

No details of the initiative have been disclosed.

In Beirut, 'Arafat told a press conference today that his fighters "are still in Al-Baddawi camp and he is continuing fighting against dissidents. I have approved a ceasefire four days ago but my opponents turned it down," he told reporters. He said his forces "are besieged from land by his dissidents and Israeli warships are imposing sea blockade and captured three ships carrying supplies and medical aid to his forces."

'Arafat Addresses Message to Arab Leaders

GF211720 San'a' Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text of 21 November message from Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, to Arab kings, presidents, and amirs]

[Text] I address to you this message from the besieged area in Tripoli at a time when all the areas of Tripoli are being attacked by the Syrian and Libyan forces and some agents who are subservient to them. They are shelling the city and the refugee camps with rockets and heavy artillery. They are now attacking from several axes: the Al-Baddawi camp-Al-Mankubin axis, the coastal road axis, the Al-Qubbah axis, and the (?Ash-Sha'rani) axis. A new development is the attack by the Syrian forces against new areas in Al-Qubbah and At-Tabbanah where there are only the Lebanese Islamic and nationalist forces and the popular militias.

The diabolical and random bombardment by 154 heavy guns and 90 rocket launchers has burned Tripoli and turned it into a spot sinking in fire and smoke. Explosions are continuing day and night over Lebanese and Palestinian citizens in a new Karbala' massacre against the Lebanese and Palestinian people and against the PLO and its legitimate leadership.

From my present position, and despite all what we are suffering, we thank you for your responsible moves and we agree to every good-will initiative you carry out to end the bloodshed to spare Tripoli a bloodbath and the massacre that has been prepared for it.

Thank you and my sincerest greetings, appreciation and good wishes.

[Signed] Your Brother Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the forces of the Palestinian revolution

Fatah Official on Fahd Call, Delegation to USSR

PM181632 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 18 Nov 83 p 1

[As-Sirr Sayyid Ahmad report: "PLO Absolutely Adheres to King Fahd's Appeal"]

[Text] Riyadh — Rafiq an-Natshah (Abu Shakir), Fatah Central Committee member and PLO representative to the Saudi Kingdom, has described King Fahd's call for an end to fighting and bloodshed as complementing the king's previous efforts to this end. Out of his sense of responsibility he called on all the Arab leaders to carry out their duty. An-Natshah said: What is required from the others is that they translate the king's appeal into reality. He added: "For our part we declare our total commitment to responding to the appeal and hope that the other party and the Syrian regime will do the same."

An-Natshah was speaking to *ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* in an exclusive interview on the latest developments following the fall of Al-Baddawi camp and Mr 'Arafat's and his fighters' taking refuge in Tripoli. He said that Abu 'Ammar and the fighters cannot stay in Tripoli against the will of the city inhabitants because this is illogical. He added: "It is not inevitable or essential that Abu 'Ammar remain in Tripoli, for he has other missions in many parts of the world, and he must leave in order to fulfill these missions. But how can he leave while shells fill the sky?"

An-Natshah's reference to Abu 'Ammar's departure is believed to be the first reference by a Palestinian leader to the question of departure. It had previously been reiterated that 'Arafat would stay there and face his fate with his people. But An-Natshah stressed that such a departure should be conditional upon the observance of a real and firm cease-fire in the first place, something the Gulf mediation delegation discussed in Damascus yesterday, Thursday.

An-Natshah revealed that the Fatah delegation's expected visit to Moscow will be at the highest level. The delegation, which will include Faruq Qaddumi and Mahmud 'Abbas, will ask the Soviets to mediate and to publicly confirm their attitude toward the PLO and its legitimacy. It will also ask them to use their influence with Damascus to stop the fighting.

An-Natshah said that Soviet President Andropov addressed a message to this effect to Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad.

Regarding talk that the only option open to the PLO is to return to Jordan in order to continue the political dialogue with it on the basis of President Reagan's initiative, as Jordanian Crown Prince Amir Hasan said at the Emory University symposium organized by President Carter, An-Natshah said that there is no way of meeting with any of the Arab countries on the basis of Reagan's plan because it addresses all parties except the PLO, "since he withheld from us the right of self-determination, which is the minimum."

Speaking about the options open to the PLO following the recent developments, An-Natshah said: "We have many options and many cards that we have not yet played. Our cadres and people blame us for not playing those cards. After the Tripoli crisis we will return to our organization and to our masses. We will divide our work into two parts, one being Arab and international information and political action and the other being organization and action in the occupied territories. We shall devote ourselves to this action."

An-Natshah and Hani al-Hasan were the first two Palestinian leaders to visit Jordan and meet with King Husayn early this month following the breakdown of the Palestinian-Jordanian dialogue last April. Referring to those talks, he explained that they were in order to discuss the affairs of citizens in the West Bank. We also discussed the latest developments in the Palestine problem, "but during the visit we did not take with us any plans for future cooperation," he added.

Nonaligned Group in Kuwait in Reconciliation Try

LD211342 Kuwait KUNA in English 1117 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] Kuwait, Nov 21 (KUNA) — A four-man delegation of the Nonaligned Movement arrived here Monday at the outset of a tour of the region aimed at mediating among Palestinians in north Lebanon. The mission, which comprises the foreign ministers of India, Yugoslavia, Cuba and the Senegalese permanent ambassador to the U.N. , was mandated to start reconciliatory efforts, following a meeting in New Delhi in the past two days for the Palestine Committee of the Nonaligned Movement. The team, which is scheduled to leave Tuesday for Damascus for talks with the Syrian and Palestinian leadership, immediatley went into talks with Kuwait's deputy Premier Foriegn and Information Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad.

At the airport, head of the mission Indian Foreign Minister Narasimha Rao, told KUNA the team has no specific proposals as to settle the inter-Palestinian feud, but underlined the Non-aligned Movement's concern over the current developments in north Lebanon. The Indian official described as "delicate" the situation in North Lebanon where supporters and opponents of PLO Leader Yasir 'Arafat have been ferociously battling for about two weeks and said the Nonaligned Movement realized the urgency to find a solution to the crisis.

Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, current chairwoman of the Non-aligned Movement, despatched the team following the two-day meeting in New Delhi for the eight-state Palestine Committee which was set up in the last non-aligned summit conference in March.

Asked if the team plans to visit Beirut or north Lebanon to meet with 'Arafat, Rao said "Our plans are open, and we have to decide on further visits after having discussions in Damascus."

On the repercussions of an eventual elimination of the PLO legitimate leadership, the minister said "The unity of the PLO is very essential in order to find a solution to the Middle East problem," adding that ways to preserve the organization's unity will be in the focus of the team's talks.

Meanwhile, Kuwait's deputy Premier Foreign and Information Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, who greeted the delegation at the airport, voiced hope that the nonaligned mission would be successful and said "We regard the team's task with the importance it merits." Shaykh Sabah, talking to KUNA, underscored that the delegation will be discussing an issue that affects all member states of the Nonaligned movement. The Kuwait diplomat, who earlier in the month spearheaded an Arab mediation initiative to halt the inter-Palestinian fighting, said "We hope we will reach a solution that would satisfy all parties and restore to the PLO the status it merits in the conscience of the world."

Shaykh Sabah, accompanied by the Qatari foreign affairs minister, visited Damascus on November 8, under a mandate from the Gulf Cooperation Council to mediate a ceasefire betweent he warring Palestinian sides. The two envoys, following meetings with Syrian and rebel Palestinian leaders, hammered out a truce, which, however, did not hold out long.

Baghdad PLO Radio Updates Situation in Tripoli

JN211727 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1616 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] Ferocious battles continue to rage on all combat axes around the city of Tripoli. The aggressive Syrian and Libyan forces are trying to advance toward the city but they are being repulsed by our forces. The latest military reports issued by the Palestinian revolution forces' general command indicate that the Syrian and Libyan forces as well as their agents continued their military operations all day yesterday and this morning. The operations are characterized by intensive military activity on all axes of Tripoli. At the same time, the heavy artillery and rocket shelling continues on the axes of Al-Mankubin, At-Tabbanah, Al-Baqqar, Al-Qubbah, and Ash-Sha'rani. The tanks have not ceased their attempts to advance on these axes. As a result, ferocious battles have been raging with all types of weapons, particularly since the aggressive Syrian forces have pushed new reinforcements of tanks and special units into the battle under the cover of intensive artillery shelling. The nationalist and Islamic forces in Al-Qubbah, At-Tabbanah, Ash-Sha'rani, and Al-Baqqar are rpulsing the attempts to advance, forcing the aggressors to retreat.

News agencies say that the intensive Syrian shelling is aimed against residential quarters in the city and the port. Many residential buildings have been hit and set on fire. Other shells landed around the Palestinian Red Crescent Hospital in the city. An AFP dispatch from northern Lebanon says shells hit a large area in the port and the fire is still blazing. AFP adds that Al-Baddawi camp is still being shelled regularly.

Syrian Role in Tripoli Fighting Ridiculed

JN190739 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1554 GMT 18 Nov 83

[Unattributed talk]

[Text] Brothers, the Syrian regime is very concerned about the Palestinian revolution and Palestinians in general, so much so that the Syrian leaders' love for the Palestinian revolution and the Palestinian people has, on many occasions, been inspired by the Zionist leaders' love for this revolution and this Palestinian people. We do not want to strain the memory of our brother listeners with the Syrian regime's glorious deeds and its great love and concern for the Palestinian revolution except through these vital examples which we will briefly present in order to learn more of the Syrian regime's love and concern for the Palestinian revolution and the sons of Palestine in general.

For example, the Syrian regime has prevented Palestinian military action through the Syrian front in the Golan since 1973 out of its concern for the Palestinian revolution. The Syrian regime also closed down the Palestinian revolution radio in Dar'a and confiscated its contents and its tramsission equipment several years ago. Moreover, the regime confiscated all Palestinian weapons; all the Arab countries knew of the Syrian confiscation of the weapons the Palestinian fedayeen used to fight the Zionist enemy. Even during the siege of Beirut, and while Zionist planes were bombing Lebanese and Palestinian citizens and the revolution's positions, the Syrian regime confiscated the Palestinian weapons which were coming from the Arab countries and elsewhere. Add to this the confiscation of supplies, medicines, and military uniforms and the seizure and closure of the Palestinian revolution's offices in Damascus.

In order to appear before the world as being very concerned for the Palestinians, the Damascus rulers slaughtered their sons in Tall az-Za'tar in 1976 and in Al-Yarmuk, Al-Baddawi, and Nahr al-Barid refugee camps in 1983. As for the Syrian president's concern for the Palestinians and Lebanese, it culminated during and after the Zionist invasion of Lebanon. For example, before the Israeli invasion, the Syrian president ordered his forces to completely adhere to the directives of the command of the Israeli invasion and to withdraw to Al-Biqa' where the Syrian missiles were stationed; missiles which did not fire a single rocket at the Israeli planes during last year's war, and not even 3 days ago, or yesterday, when the Israeli planes and others raided the positions of the Amal Movement in Al-Biqa'. How magnificent the Damascus rulers are in their concern for the Palestinians and Lebanese!

The Syrian president made a remark before the Arab kings and presidents at the Fes summit in which he showed great concern for the Palestinians and Lebanese. Abu Sulayman [Hafiz al-Asad]: They told me — meaning the Americans — that the Israelis will not cross further than 45 km. This means let the south go to hell, Your Excellency President al-Asad. As a matter of fact, Abu Sulayman, the Israelis began to settle in the south just as they settled and annexed the Golan Heights to the occupied land because you are very concerned for the south and the Golan. Who says that you are not fighting Israel? Anyone listening to your radio and reading your papers will hear and see the numerous insults to the Zionist enemy, U.S. imperialism, the reactionaries, and the conspirators which are sufficient for your military propaganda organ with its unique credibility.

Touching on your media, we clearly notice how these media adhere to the instructions of Hafiz al-Asad. This is very natural. Regarding their credibility, we say: Damascus radio, the newspaper *TISHRIN*, and the country's television say that the fighting in northern Lebanon is inter-Palestinian, just as your very brave Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad said to a European minister. However, what is your opinion and the opinion of the very truthful Damascus radio, the television, and press if we say that we have substantial evidence of your effective participation in the fighting against the Palestinian refugee camps and the Palestinian revolution's positions in the north?

We do not want to reiterate that the officers and soldiers of the [words indistinct] against the Palestinian refugee camps. We do not want to say that you are using your rocket launchers and artillery to shell our forces and refugee camps in the north. This information has become old. Is it not true? However, we say to our very brave Excellency al-Asad, your radio and press, your fanciful radio, and to your ally and partner Al-Qadhdhafi, regarding the crime against the Palestinian civilians in northern Lebanon: We have Syrian prisoners from your Army who said the following, Your Excellency al-Asad. They are in the regular Syrian Army and have been participating since the fighting began in the battles against the Palestinians annd the Palestinian revolution's positions. Very well, you can also deny this just as you denied slaughtering the Palestinians in Tall az-Za'tar for example, or destroying their refugee camps in northern Lebanon and attacking the Palestinian citizens in Al-Yarmuk because you are bound by your great concern for the Palestinians, even if that means killing their children and women. However, your very brave Excellency al-Asad, the whole world is completely convinced that you are the one who planned and implemented the current massacres, shelling, and siege against the Palestinians in northern Lebanon.

Just as you are concerned for the Palestinians and eager to kill them, strike at their legitimate authority, and remove them from the fighting lines with the Zionist enemy, the Palestinian revolution, fighters, and masses will not forget your disgraceful deeds and will not forget that your hands are stained with the blood of the Lebanese and Syrians. History will undoubtedly give you a fair trial, Your Excellency al-Asad. As for your media, the Arab nation has given them their fair trial a long time ago.

We must not forget what a Lebanese journalist once said: It is as if Damascus radio is living on another planet. That Lebanese journalist was commenting on the Tall az-Za'tar massacres committed by the Syrian regime. [Words indistinct]

FILISTIN ATH-THAWRAH Rejects Capitulation

GF201940 Aden Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1820 GMT 20 Nov 83

[FILISTIN ATH-THAWRAH editorial: "We Who Say No" — no date given]

[Excerpts] We who said no to our death by the hands of Zionism say a million nos to our death by the hands of the regimes who are today up to their ears in the base conspiracy against our people. These regimes raise false slogans and stab us with Israel's dagger but are unable to mislead or trick our people because our Palestinian people defend their revolution, their question, their existence, their independent rifle, their independent decision, and the keffiyeh and akal [head cover and cord]. As for those who shell Al-Baddawi, Nahr al-Barid, and the valiant Arab city of Tripoli with heavy and long-range artillery which they station everywhere in Al-Kurah and in 'Akkar and within their territory, we say to them: no. Your conspiracy will not pass, we will not kneel before your palaces, and we will not become servants for the transgressors.

We reiterate our warning against the state of siege that is being imposed on us. We tell them before it is too late that the Palestinian people hold them responsible for killing its children and for destroying its camps. The Palestinian people will not remain silent toward the real criminals and real killers because they know why these regimes hate the Palestinian people and dispise them and because their peoples know why they hate the Palestinian people and dispise them. We warn them against shedding Palestinian blood, as Sharon did, because murder is their means to kill history and history will not show mercy to the murderers, to coups, and to bloody massacres. The Palestinians are the living witness to the buried history in this ancient Arab land. Thus, we warn them and tell them that our blood is not cheap.

We are not slaves but free men. We will not kneel to anyone. Our heads will always be held high even when they are bleeding. Finally, history will record our blood. We knew since the emergence of our Palestinian revolution that our blood is the march toward dignity, freedom, and the homeland.

Captured Palestinian Colonel Dies in Syria

JN201600 Amman SAWT ASH-SHA'B in Arabic 20 Nov 83 p 1

[Text] Damascus, *SAWT ASH-SHA'B — SAWT ASH-SHA'B* has learned that Colonel Abu Ta'an, commander of the Palestinian armed struggle in the Tripoli area, died after being seriously wounded and then captured by Syrian forces in the Tripoli area during the Nahr al-Barid camp battle.

SAWT ASH-SHA'B also learned that, instead of treating him, the Syrian forces let him bleed until he died at the hands of the Syrian investigators.

Palestinian Fighters To Leave Amman for Tripoli

JN201616 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 20 Nov 83 pp 1, 19

[Text] Amman, *AD-DUSTUR* — Groups of Palestinian fighters and Palestine Liberation Army forces are preparing to leave for the Tripoli area in northern Lebanon to defend the Palestinian revolution and its legitimate leadership and independent national decisionmaking, which is the target of attack by the Syrian and Libyan regimes and Fatah dissidents.

A responsible Palestinian source has said that thousands of volunteers have rushed to the PLO offices asking to go to Tripoli. The source also said that large numbers of fighters and volunteers have actually arrived in Tripoli and taken up positions beside the fighters who are defending the independence of the Palestinian revolution.

The source explained that the Syrian and Libyan authorites and the dissidents had believed that their siege of the city of Tripoli and the Palestinian camps from land as well as Israeli siege from sea would halt military and manpower supplies to the Palestinian revolution.

The source added: But this revolution, which has 18 years of experience in struggle under the most difficult circumstances and which managed to survive Lebanon's war and the Beirut siege, will find a way to secure the means of defense and support its steadfastness with the various factors of that steadfastness.

Nahr al-Barid Camp Expresses Support for 'Arafat

GF211830 San'a' Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] Brothers, our Palestinian masses in the Nahr al-Barid camp have issued the following important statement:

The imperialist-Zionist plot which is being implemented by the Syrian regime against the Palestinian revolution is a continuation of the dirty onslaught carried out by the Zionist invading forces against our revolution in 1982. As a result of the Israeli enemy's failure to liquidate the Palestinian revolution, U.S. imperialism has found in the Syrian regime a suitable instrument qualified to liquidate this revolution and to destroy the PLO — and the Syrian regime sought to do this in 1976. The Syrian regime has mobilized all its old and new agents and mercenaries and turned them into a Trojan horse to attack the Palestinian revolution. The Syrian regime raised misleading slogans while it is embroiled up to its neck in secret talks with the United States and the Zionist enemy to share influence and [word indistinct] by force in Lebanon and in the Middle East.

The Nahr al-Barid camp, which has responded to the calls for dialogue and reconciliation, is today paying with the blood of its inhabitants as a price for its determination to hold on to its Palestinian identity and its unlimited loyalty and its leader Abu 'Ammar. Exactly the same thing has happened and is happening to our heroic masses in the Al-Yarmuk camp.

The Nahr al-Barid camp, whose inhabitants' blood was shed by agents of the Syrian regime such as the mercenaries of Jibril and Al-'Imlah [Fatah dissident leader], and whose cubs and roses were martyred as a result of Syrian artillery and rocket fire, will not kneel to the new occupiers and will not change its insistence on its right to an independent revolution and independent national decisionmaking. This agent and mercenary clique is harming the Palestinian revolution and the camp and is imposing its existence on the masses by the force, the force of Syrian guns, tanks, and rocket launchers. Our masses in Nahr al-Barid camp have expressed their rejection of the control of the agents and mercenaries of the Syrian regime over the camp because they do not represent any citizen in the camp. They are a handful of mercenaries whose only concern is to loot, plunder, and attack Palestinian sanctities that have been built by our people with their pure blood which was shed in the Nahr al-Barid and Al-Baddawi camps.

The Nahr al-Barid camp declares its rejection of the traitorous dissidents [words indistinct]. Indeed, they represent the Syrian and Libyan regimes. Therefore, there is no place for all these agent and mercenary cliques among the ranks of our masses in the Nahr al-Barid camp. They are ostracized by all our masses and people everywhere. We declare to everyone that we support Abu 'Ammar and independent Palestinian decisionmaking. We are opposed to tutelage. We will continue to fight and resist until [words indistinct] triumphs and our banner flies high, and the Syrian regime and their agents who represent a dirty role in serving Washington and Israel are defeated.

The Syrian regime, which is insisting on Abu 'Ammar's departure from Tripoli is continuing attack of Sharon, who insisted on Abu 'Ammar's departure from Beirut in order to stop the siege and starving of the city. Therefore, we say: We are for Abu 'Ammar. His place is in our hearts. We are his soldiers until victory.

Long live the Palestinian revolution under Abu 'Ammar's leadership! Long live the Nahr al-Barid camp — a bastion of the revolution! Abu 'Ammar is our leader and the symbol of our people until victory! Death to the traitors and mercenaries! Shame to the Syrian regime which is now implementing what Sharon failed to do in the past! Long live the independent Palestinian decisionmaking! Long live the cohesion of the forces of the Palestinian revolution within the PLO framework! Long live armed struggle and the independent Palestinian gun as the road to liberation! Revolution until victory!

Syrian Use of 'Strategic' Arms Violates Agreement

LD212313 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] Foreign correspondents in the fighting zones in northern Lebanon have confirmed that in the past few days the Syrian, Libyan, and dissident forces are using the biggest Soviet tanks, guns, and missiles in their fight against the forces of the Palestine revolution under the leadership of Brother Abu 'Ammar. In their dispatches from the battle zones, they added that T-72 and T-52 tanks and Soviet Grad missiles were used during the past 48 hours and extensively in the attack on the town of Tripoli and in the direction of the headquarters of the brother the leader, Yasir 'Arafat, who is in town, and that a number of these tanks were hit or destroyed by the defenders in several areas.

Observers believe that the use of these Soviet strategic weapons by the Syrian and the Libyan forces is a flagrant violation of the Soviet-Syrian agreement which stipulates the use of the Soviet-made weapons in the defense of Syrian territory against the imperialists and the Israelis and not against the forces of the Palestine revolution or against Lebanese and Palestinian civilians.

Commenting on this, a spokesman for the Palestine revolution said this is not the first violation by the Syrian forces in using the Soviet strategic weapons against us. Indeed, they were used against the Syrian people themselves in the massacre of Hamah.

KUNA Cites Tunisian-Algerian Exchange on N. Lebanon

LD181726 Kuwait KUNA in English 1625 GMT 18 Nov 83

[Text] Tunis, Nov 18 (KUNA) — Tunisia and Algeria are contemplating the possible adverse consequences of the developments in northern Lebanon and other parts of the Israeli-occupied Arab country on the Palestinian question as a whole and the urgent measures to be taken to avert such an end. The exchange between the two north African Arab states was contained in a message delivered here Friday by the Algerian light industries minister Said Ait-Messaoudine, from president Chadli Bendjedid to President Habib Bourguiba. Messaoudine told journalists after his audience with President Bourguiba that the message dealt with "the painful developments in Lebanon specially their direct bearing on the Palestinian question." He did not elaborate but added that "issues of the Arab Maghrib (North Africa)" were also covered in the message.

The Tunisian prime minister Mohamed Mzali, foreign minister Beji Caid es-Sebsi, economy minister Rachid Safi and President Bourguiba's advisor, Bourguiba junior, were present when Ait-Messaoudine conveyed Bendjedid's message to the Tunisian leader. None of the politicians attending the meeting offered any comment on what went on in that meeting but the Tunisian foreign minister later said his country was deeply annoyed at developments of the situation in the northern provincial Lebanese city and the Palestinian camps adjoining it. "Tunisia has often asserted, and at numerous occasions, that what is going on in northern Lebanon is a mere waste of Arab and Palestinian energies that will only benefit the Israeli enemy".

Es-Sebsi went on saying that Tunisia, out of a sense of responsibility for the Palestinian cause, reaffirms its stand and warns that the situation in north Lebanon "is well realised by all and history will judge those who made it." "If, however, sincerity prevails and a return to wisdom and consolidation of efforts are secured, an end can be put to the painful miseries of the Palestinians and their cause, which is also ours", he asserted.

The algerian envoy is expected to discuss, during his stay, a number of issues relating to promotion of relations between the two countries which recently patched up their differences and agreed to embark on a fresh start aimed at fostering cooperation in all fields. Shortly after Messadouene meeting with Bourguiba, an official announcement said that the Tunisian-Algerian technical committee began border demarcation between the two countries.

Islamic Unification Movement Calls for Summit

NC191911 Paris AFP in English 1900 GMT 19 Nov 83

[Text] Tirpoli, Lebanon, Nov 19 (AFP) — The Islamic Unification Movement (IUM), allied to embattled Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) leader Yasir 'Arafat, today called for the urgent convocation of an Arab summit to end "the aggression and the siege" of this northern Lebanese city by Syrian-backed Palestinian rebels. An IUM statement issued here called on Arabs to "close ranks against the enemy (Israel)."

The Syrian- and Libyan-backed PLO dissidents were following a "scorched earth policy, forgetting that it is Palestine, south Lebanon and the Golan (Heights) which have to be liberated, and not the capital of northern Lebanon," the statement added. It accused the dissidents and their allies of being "agents of the (United States) Pentagon, in spite of their statements of (Palestinian) nationalism and resistance."

The statement also called on Rashid Karami, a member of the Lebanese Parliament for Tripoli and former Lebanese prime minister, to return from Damascus "in order to be free in his statements and acts." Mr Karami, a leader of the Syrian-backed Lebanese National Salvation Front, has been in Damascus since he returned from the Lebanese National Reconciliation Congress in Geneva two weeks ago.

IUM militiamen, who control most of Tripoli, have been fighting alongside Mr 'Arafat's forces in the besieged port city.

PLF Official Interviewed on Dissident Movement

GF181522 Ash-Shariqah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 17 Nov 83 p 16

[Interview with Abu al-'Abbas, military commander and deputy secretary general of the Palestine Liberation Front, by *AL-KHALIJ* correspondent in Nicosia — date not given]

[Excerpts] *AL-KHALIJ*: We have learned that there is a dispute within the Palestine Liberation Front [PLF]. Has this dispute been settled and, if so, how — particularly since a circular was issued by basic military cadres in Al-Biqa' and in the north indicating that some joined Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha]? What is your comment?

Abu al-'Abbas: I can say that there is no dispute, in political terms, within the PLF. There are differing views, but no differences or radical contradictions that will ultimately lead to dissent. As for what happened in Al-Biqa', everybody knows that some unidentified fighters within the PLF — some of whom joined the PLF recently — were urged through the protest and reform movement of Fatah to adopt a position of pressuring the PLF in order to adopt a positive stance toward the Fatah protest movement.

Acutally, those comrades who were originally present in the vicinity of the bases of Abu Musa announced their views, which were in favor of the reform movement. We rejected this stand because it took place in a military base. This matter was dealt with in an extremely democratic manner so that in the end there were only three dissidents who were merely leaders of groups. One of them had the rank of warrant officer junior grade, another's rank was sergeant, while the third was a regular fighter — I assume he is from Tunisia. The brothers in the reform movement received the three combatants, kept them under the name of PLF, gave them salaries, and allowed them to recruit new fighters for the PLF at a time they took part in guarding the roadblocks of the reform movement. The reform movement tried to create a phenomenon out of these three fighters in order to pressure us. The others who were in our bases returned to the PLF.

AL-KHALIJ: Did the PLF take part in the mountain war? Did at least elements of the PLF participate in this war?

Abu al-'Abbas: We took part in the mountain war. I was there personally.

AL-KHALIJ: Lebanese television interviewed a comrade of yours — as "one of the Abu Musa forces who was returning to Beirut" — and got information from him until he died from a back wound.

Abu al-'Abbas: This is true. We, as well as all the Palestinian organizations, took part in the mountain war. There were many martyrs as well as many wounded. We suffered losses, as the other organizations did, during the battles. Unfortunately, reports disseminated at that time indicated that any Palestinian participation in the battles would harm the Lebanese national interests. Consequently, the situation that prevailed urged that the announcement of Palestinian participation not be made by us. In contradiction to all the acknowledged concepts among the comrades, we fought in the mountain because we were certain that there was a need to stand alongside our friends and allies. Certainly, we took part in the fighting without waiting to be praised for that. I regretfully say that we did not take part in the fighting in order to be cursed by our comrades. This comrade you talked about was taken captive after being wounded and he was later martyred. The next day our friends announced that he was a Syrian laborer and not a fighter. This confused our fighters, who were zealous to fight alongside the allies. Thus, they were frustrated. Our forces are still in the mountain.

AL-KHALIJ: There is a talk about a third party with regard to the current crisis. There is the side that adheres to the proposals made by the opposition, there is the opposition side, and there is the PLO — with its official implication — with Abu 'Ammar as its leader. Where do you stand here?

Abu al-'Abbas: We are supporters of PLO and its chairman, Yasir 'Arafat, in accordance with its announced platform.

Khalaf Meets With PRC Envoy to Tunisia

LD200857 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 20 Nov 83

[text] Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf], member of the Fatah Central Committee, has met with the ambassador of People's China and explained to him the dimensions of the plot to which the Palestinian revolution and its legitimate leadership in Tripoli, northern Lebanon, are being exposed. The Chinese diplomat reiterated his country's support for the Palestinian cause and for the PLO and the Fatah movement under 'Arafat's leadership.

Damascus: 'Arafat Dismissed From Fatah in 1966

JN192147 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 19 Nov 83

[Text] A secret document issued by the command of Fatah movement has disclosed that Yasir 'Arafat was dismissed from the movement in 1966 after he was condemned for adopting unethical methods in dealing with the movement's militants and the Fatah command. 'Arafat was then discredited and deprived of the right to be contacted by the movement's members. The document discloses that the Fatah Central Committee censured 'Arafat on 29 April 1966. They accused him of presenting false and suspect work reports, particularly in the military field, and of adopting tricky methods with the aim of provoking the movement's bases against the command. He was also accused of adopting the policy of [word indistinct] attempting to buy the consciences of the militants and wasting the movement's funds through illgitimate methods. Accordingly, the document adds, 'Arafat was discredited and [his case was] forwarded for investigation.

These are the same charges made against 'Arafat these days because of his deviationist practices and collaboration with the liquidatory and capitulatory settlements.

PFLP Denies Unity Talks With Fatah, DFLP

GF211340 Ash-Shariqah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 21 Nov 83 p 1

[Text] Damascus — An official source in the PFLP Political Bureau has denied that there have been any contacts between the PFLP and between Fatah and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine to set up a unified movement. The source was commenting on a report to this effect published by the Kuwaiti *AS-SIYASAH* in its 20 November issue.

The PFLP source also denied that any PFLP leader has left Damascus in protest at the fighting in northern Lebanon. He said: Our stand on the fighting in northern Lebanon is clear. We advocate an immediate cessation to the fighting and a resolution of current problems through a democratic dialogue.

KUWAIT

Defense Minister on Iran Threat, GCC Exercises

GF211432 Ad-Dammam AL-YAWM in Arabic 20 Nov 83 pp 1, 19

[Falih as-Saghir dispatch from Kuwait]

[Text] Kuwaiti Defense Minister Shaykh Salim as-Sabah as-Salim has welcomed the visit of His Highness Crown Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, deputy prime minister and commander of the National Guard, to Kuwait. He said that Prince 'Abdallah is visiting his second country.

In answer to a question from *AL-YAWM*, the Kuwaiti defense minister said: The visit underlines the ties of brotherhood and understanding between the brothers in Saudi Arabia and in Kuwait and the special relationship between Prince 'Abdallah and [Kuwaiti Prime Minister] Shaykh Sa'd. These are bases that have been built by our forefathers and we are consolidating them for future generations in the interest of the region in general, and Saudi Arabia and Kuwait in particular.

Referring to the future of military coordination, the Kuwaiti defense minister said: This subject is not new. It has existed for a long time; hence the military coordination among GCC countries.

In answer to a question from *AL-YAWM* on Iran's threats to close the Strait of Hormuz, the Kuwaiti defense minister said: No reasonable man in Iran could think of carrying out this threat, because this would mean a clear invitation to the superpowers to intervene in the region.

Referring to the Saudi-Kuwaiti joint air exercises, the Kuwaiti minister said: There is a program for such exercises to be held on the Gulf level. He said that Kuwaiti aircraft arrived in Saudi Arabia on 19 November, and various air defense formations will begin today. These exercises will not be confined to Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, for other GCC countries will also take part, he said.

The Kuwaiti defense minister emphasized the importance of cooperation in defense matters among the GCC countries. He praised existing Saudi-Kuwaiti cooperation in this regard. He said that such cooperation is not new.

The Kuwaiti defense minister asserted that Kuwait supports the legitimate leadership of the PLO. He expressed hope that through dialogue the Palestinians will be able to agree on a cease-fire and resolve their differences. In this regard he praised the efforts of King Fahd and Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah to stop the internecine fighting among the Palestinians. He also lauded the GCC role in this matter.

Prime Minister on Saudi Ties, GCC Coordination

LD191233 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0900 GMT 19 Nov 83

[Excerpts] Jidda, 19 Nov (SPA) — Kuwaiti Prime Minister and Heir Apparent Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Sabah has praised the efforts exerted by King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz on the Arab and Islamic levels. Speaking on relations between the Saudi Kingdom and Kuwait, Shaykh as-Sabah affirmed that they were strong and solid. Officials in both countries should seek to widen and promote further cooperation between the two fraternal countries in various fields for the good and prosperity of both of them in the present and future, he said.

The Kuwaiti prime minister was speaking in a statement published today by the Saudi papers *AL-BILAD, UKAZ*, and *AL-MADINAH*.

He said that GCC leaders appreciate Kuwait's position toward the security agreement and there was now no problem for seeking agreement on Kuwait's position in this regard. He added that his country looks forward to further security agreements among the GCC member countries. He pointed out that meetings which have taken place among the security and defense officials of the GCC member countries have gone beyond what was provided for in the security agreement.

He said the recent Peninsula Shield maneuvers in the UAE were successful in all aspects, enabling the officers and men who took part in them to get acquainted with each other and familiarize themselves with the latest military hardware, training, and tactics. He added that air maneuvers which will take place between the Kingdom and Kuwait next month will enable them to further acquaint themselves with each other and improve coordination.

He affirmed that the GCC was part of the Arab world. Consequently, leaders of the GCC member countries should hold meetings and consultations with the officials of other Arab countries over any differences that could impede unified Arab action.

He declared that the Islamic efforts and good offices made for ending the Iraqi-Iranian war have not failed but have gone a long way. He added that he hopes these efforts will continue to secure a cease-fire as the first step leading to the discussion of the various points under dispute. He expressed hope for the success of these efforts.

Asked about the reported likelihood of the closure of the Strait of Hormuz, Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Salim as-Sabah said it is difficult to predict what will actually happen, though we have heard many threats about closing it. He expressed hope that no country will attempt to close the strait. But, he said, if the strait were closed, then regional countries should consult on what steps should be taken to deal with the situation. He added that all the region countries feel it necessary for the strait to remain open.

Regarding the inter-Palestinian conflicts, he called for more sincere efforts to solve the Palestine question, saying that any breaking of Palestinian ranks will harm the Palestine cause.

He said that leaders of the GCC member countries discussed dangers which trouble the region's people during the fourth summit conference they recently held in Doha. They agreed on unifying their efforts and adopting many positive steps to save the region from difficulties and consolidate stability. He added that these steps include efforts to solve many of the differences which obstruct unified Arab action. Some of these steps, he added, will be discussed during the Arab foreign ministers conference, scheduled to be held in Tunis. The conference will also set a new date for the forthcoming Arab summit.

He added that Kuwait has repeatedly called for the solution of Palestinian differences through dialogue and understanding. This cannot be achieved except through a meeting of the PNC, he said.

Asked about the European position on Arab causes, the Kuwaiti heir apparent said that the evaluation of the European position can only be done through the Arab position toward Arab issues. Once the Arab states succeed in solving their own differences, their influence will be felt in the world and the European countries will then change their positions.

He called on the Arab and islamic countries to frustrate all opportunities before the enemies of the Arab and Islamic nation and thwart their designs through consultation, coordination, understanding, and casting away differences.

He expressed hope that harmony and accord will prevail among the Lebanese people and the bloody clashes and fratricide will end so that stability, security, and tranquillity will return to the country. He also expressed hope for the success of the forthcoming meeting between Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil and Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad.

With regard to the world economic recession, Shaykh Sa'd pointed out that that this matter was now under discussion by the OPEC oil ministers. An OPEC committee is now in London discussing future strategy of the organization, he said. He expressed hope that the meetings will have good results.

Discussing the fall in oil prices and the increase in production by some countries which failed to abide by the agreement reached at recent meetings in London and Gevena, he said that this will have an impact on the other OPEC member countries.

He affirmed that Kuwait has honored and continues to honor its financial commitments to the aid program laid down following the Arab summit conferences. He added that any drop in the oil prices will affect Kuwait's income — a matter which will force us to reconsider the commitments to be undertaken by Kuwait in the future toward some countries.

Regarding foreign workers, Shaykh Sa'd affirmed that the Kuwaiti Government does not permit any contractor to bring any foreign workers unless the competent authorities are convinced of the need for them and unless similar workers are not available in Kuwait.

On the question of Arab-African relations, he said the Arab countries should stand by those African countries which refused to restore relations with Israel and sided with the Arab causes, particularly the Palestine cause.

Saudi Crown Prince Comments on Talks

GF211658 Jidda Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Excerpts] Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Saudi crown prince, deputy prime minister, and commander of the National Guard, stated that his talks with Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Sabah, Kuwaiti crown prince and prime minister, were positive and constructive and dealt with various Gulf issues and causes and included defense, the economy, and education fields and the existing cooperation between the GCC countries. In a meeting with chief editors of Saudi newspapers and representatives of the media who are covering his highness' visit to Kuwait, he said that talks also dealt with the general situation in the Arab and Islamic world and the bloody events in the region.

Asked whether talks dealt with the Iraqi-Iranian war, his highness noted that the talks dealt with all issues of interest to the Arab and Islamic nation, foremost of which was the Iraqi-Iranian war. Views were similar regarding the danger of the continuation of this war, its effect on the capabilities of the two Muslim countries, and the security and stability of the region in addition to the destruction of the capabilities of the two countries. He added that continuation of the Iraqi-Iranian war will decrease the chances of resolving the existing differences between the two countries in the best way in response to the good Islamic and international efforts.

Regarding the question whether the talks with Kuwaiti officials dealt with the security agreement between Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, his highness stated that the agreement was discussed and the Kuwaiti brothers expressed their views. He said: We saw a comprehensive picture of all that facilitates the achieving of this agreement.

He affirmed that Saudi Arabia has taken practical measures to strengthen the security situation in the GCC countries. His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz issued his instructions to put on the market 10 percent of the shares of the company of basic industries for general subscription among GCC countries. He noted that this step was aimed at strengthening the strong economic relations.

Asked whether talks dealt with continuation of efforts to stop the bloodshed in Tripoli, His Highness Prince 'Abdallah affirmed that Saudi efforts continue to stop bloodshed and replace fighting with negotiations to resolve differences.

Regarding a question that the newspapers quoted Syrian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam as stating that the Gulf countries had halted their aid to Syria due to the oil and economic crisis in these countries, the crown prince said: I have never heard of a Gulf country which has not abided by or has halted the aid for Arab confrontation countries approved by the Arab summits.

Further Comments

LD220054 Kuwait KUNA in English 1811 GMT 21 Nov 83

[By Barges Hamud al-Barges]

[Text] Kuwait, Nov 21 (KUNA) — Saudi Crown Prince, Deputy Premier and Commander of the National Guards, Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz Monday hailed the endless sacrifices made by the Arab Palestinian people in defense of their cause and denounced the military coup against the legitimate authority entrusted with the Palestinian cause, represented by the PLO as sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. In an exclusive interview with KUNA, his royal highness described those trying to realize Israel's aims at attempting liquidation of the cause, obliterating the Palestinian identity and trampling these goals underfoot as worse than traitors, pawns and lackeys meriting all Arab disdain and scorn. "The occupation of a camp or two," Prince 'Abdallah said, "can not wrest away the deep-rooted Palestinian cause from the conscience of the Arab nation nor will it lend legitimacy to the illegitimate," The saudi crown prince asserted.

Commenting on the inter-Palestinian clashes raging in north Lebanon, his highness said that "no reason, logic or sense can accept what is happening there". He added that ever since the Balfour Declaration, 65 years ago, no national cause has called for such enormous sacrifices by the entire Arab nation, particularly the Palestinian, both human and material as did the Palestinian cause.

Asked to assess progress achieved by the Gulf Cooperation Council since its inception, Prince 'Abdallah said the GCC had proved its effectiveness as a suitable framework providing freedom of mobility for its members states. The council created a healthy atmosphere for integration and growth, he added. The council had also provided a suitable platform for full scale coordination and cooperation in economic, political and defence fields, Prince 'Abdallah pointed. The basic objective of the council was, and is still, to push forward the construction process of its member states but it will by no mean contradict with the march towards comprehensive arab integration, he added.

Asked to comment on objectives of the joint Gulf forces, the Saudi crown prince told KUNA that military maneuvers, arms coordination and the exchange of information and expertise between Gulf Armed Forces comes within the GCC Charter. The role of the armed forces in the Gulf is to defend the region against all dangers and participation in defending the Arab nation, he said, adding we believe that any action that is not self-motivated will not be effective.

On current efforts to end the Iraqi-Iranian war Prince 'Abdallah said it is no longer secret that great efforts were exerted on international, Islamic and Arab levels. Much has been done to end this dilemna and what goes on between the two warring states cannot be described as war "but sheer madness motivated by arrogance and conceit". (?The current conflict) between Iraq and Iran, Prince 'Abdallah said is "rendering the region to grave consequences". It will not only destroy the hard won achievements of the region, or (?drain) its resources, it "threatens its very independence" he stressed.

We have been pleased when Iraq announced the withdrawal of its troops from Iranian territories and its willingness to solve the current problems with peaceful means. We kept waiting for an Iranian response and are still waiting because we are confident that the spirit of Islam and the sense of fraternity will overshadow all signs of hatred, he hinted.

On Saudi Arabia's attempts to persuade Syria to interfere with Iran for a cease-fire, Prince 'Abdallah said "the kingdom exerted all efforts and knocked on (?doors) to save Iraqi and Iranian blood". The real victory can only be achieved if we succeed in preserving the resources of the two Moslem states, he added.

Asked on current conflicts between states which created an obstacle for holding the 13th summit and the possibility of creating a minimum agreement to ensure the success of such a meeting, Prince 'Abdallah admitted the existence of severe differences but said "it is surprising enough that nobody can tell over what issues they are differing." Not a single Arab ruler or an Arab citizen can determine the points of differences between any two Arab states, the crown prince outlined. As a responsible Arab citizen and official, I can see no objective differences between the Arab (?people) even to be described as a [word indistinct] Prince 'Abdallah said, adding "For this reason I see no justification for truce or entente." [passage indistinct]

Asked if the kingdom is planning to establish any sort of relations with the Soviet Union and countries of the socialist block, the Saudi Crown prince said there are no such intentions [passage indistinct] he told KUNA. The Saudi monarch had talked several times about this issue and I have nothing to add."

Arab causes, he said, are identical despite minor differences involving details. For this reason I think it would [word indistinct] fate to set up a gulf Information Council which should seek the creation of a general council for Arab infusation [as received] to remain active in and outside the Arab-Islamic region, he concluded.

AL-ANBA' Urges 'Arafat To Leave Tripoli

LD211115 Kuwait KUNA in English 1003 GMT 21 Nov 83

[From the press review]

[Text] Kuwait, Nov 21 (KUNA) — Daily *"AL-ANBA'"* Monday urged PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat to leave the northern Lebanese city of Tripoli so as to avert further bloodshed in and around the city where his supporters are besieged by Palestinian rebels. The newspaper stressed that there was no need for "the Beirut tragedy to be repeated", as it recalled the Israeli 80-day siege last year to the southern part of the Lebanese capital where 'Arafat and his fighters were entrenched.

The paper affirmed that 'Arafat's decision to leave Tripoli would deprive his opponents of their proclaimed pretext that they only want to drive him out of the area, and as such put an end to fratricidal killings between Palestinians. "Evacuate (Tripoli) with your forces because such a departure would be greater than remaining there with rubbles only and the remnants of massacres," *AL-ANBA'* appealed to 'Arafat.

Quoting 'Arafat as saying that he returned to Tripoli to "stay with my people," the paper said Palestinians are everywhere in the Arab world and 'Arafat can go anywhere, especially that his legitimacy as PLO leader is supported by the Palestinian masses, Arab countries and friendly international powers.

Turkish Defense Minister Arrives 21 November

LD212331 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] Turkish National Defense Minister Haluk Bayulken arrived in Kuwait tonight at the head of a military delegation on a formal visit to Kuwait. At the airport he was met by Minister of Electricity and Water Resources Ahmad Khalifah al-Khalifah as well as a number of officials and the Turkish Ambassador to Kuwait.

Kazakh SSR Education Minister To Visit

GF211504 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 20 Nov 83 p 2

[Text] Kazakhmet Balakhmetov, minister of education in the Kazakh Soviet Socialist Republic, accompanied by (Urichin Gregorovich), chief inspector of the ministry's international relations department, is scheduled to arrive tomorrow on a 9-day visit to Kuwait. During his visit he will discuss cultural and educational relations between the two countries and visit sites in Kuwait.

The delegation will be received by Education Minister Ya'qub al-Ghunaym on 23 November. The two sides will hold a working session at the education ministry.

The delegation itinerary includes visits to An-Nuzhah kindergarten, the science museum, special institutes, the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research, Kifan secondary school, Ar-Rawdah secondary school, the Kuwait National Museum, the Islamic Archeological Foundation, the Kuwait Oil Company in Al-Ahmadiyah, the Ash-Shu'aybah industrial area, Kuwait University, the Science Club, and the Kuwait Institute of Applied Technology.

The delegation is scheduled to leave Kuwait on 30 November.

OMAN

Minister on Hormuz Threat, PDRY, Other Issues

GF220619 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1900 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Excerpts] Muscat, 21 Nov (WAKH) — Omani Information Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz ar-Rawwas has asserted that Gulf security is the responsibility of its citizens. He said that GCC countries are aware of the importance of Gulf security and no one is allowed to transgress against it. He said that the GCC is a strong cohesive body that stands firm in the face of foreign currents.

Speaking at a press conference attended by information delegations taking part in Omani national day celebrations and Omani youth year celebrations in Muscat today, the Omani information minister said: There are three important facts: both Oman and Iran control the Strait of Hormuz; the international sea route lies in Omani waters; and the Strait of Hormuz is not of economic importance to the Sultanate of Oman.

Ar-Rawwas said that Oman is tackling this issue through the GCC. He noted that there are ideas on how to deal with the issue and that the ideas are in harmony. He said that Iran will not gain by closing the Strait of Hormuz, but will lose economically because it will not be exporting its oil. Ar-Rawwas declared: We belive that Iran will not embark on such a step. He expressed hope that this will not happen. He added: If anything should happen, however, there is a plan that has been agreed upon by the GCC countries to deal with the crisis when it occurs.

Answering a question on the next meeting of the Omani-PDRY border committee, the Omani minister said: No time or venue has yet been fixed for the meeting. The matter is left to Kuwait and the UAE, which have been arranging the talks. He explained that the work of the border committee requires time because involved and delicate issues are being discussed by the committee. He added: Haste on this matter is not agreeable to either party. He emphasized that the state of hostility between Oman and the PDRY has ended and that the basic trend now is to ease the tension. Ar-Rawwas declared: "We in Oman shall make the maximum efforts to give the talks an opportunity to succeed while at the same time not forfeiting our rights and sovereignty."

Asked about the possibility of the establishment of relations with the Soviet Union, the Omani information minister said that the Soviet Union is no exception to the rule "on which our foreign policy in dealing with the outside world is based." He said that there are indications that in the past the Soviet Union interfered in the affairs of the area. He noted: "What is happening in Afghanistan is another example of this. I believe that until the Soviet Union changes such methods we will not extend our hands to them — unless we are sure that we will not be stabbed in the back."

Answering a question on how Oman has dealt with the fall in oil prices in view of the fact that oil is a major source of income for Oman, the Omani information minister said: "Oman has suffered from the fall in oil prices. However, plans have been reviewed and reprogrammed, and vital projects have been given priority. Oil production has been increased so that we can carry out our commitments."

Oil Minister Confers With Japanese Officials

For reportage on Oil Minister Sa'id Ahmad ash-Shanfari's talks in Tokyo with Japanese officials, see the Japan section of the 22 November Asia & Pacific *DAILY REPORT*.

QATAR

Eritrean Official Arrives, Makes Statement

GF211144 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0930 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] Doha, 21 Nov (WAKH) — Mohamed Osman Abu (Bakr), representative of Eritrean Liberation Front-Popular Liberation Forces in the Gulf region, arrived in Doha today from Abu Dhabi on a 2-day visit to Qatar within the framework of the tour he is undertaking in the Arab Gulf countries. He stated that he will brief Qatari officials on developments in the Eritrean arena and on Ethiopian military preparations to launch the eighth military campaign against Eritrea, which is designed to liquidate the Eritrean issue and the struggle of the Eritrean people.

In a statement to QNA the Eritrean official stressed the Eritrean people's determination to continue the struggle, regardless of the sacrifices. He indicated that the Eritrean rebels control the liberated countryside, which constitutes 70 percent of the area of Eritrea, and that, through their determination and struggle, they succeeded in confronting the seventh Ethiopian military campaign last year and in making it fall short of its goals. He added that fierce battles raged the day before yesterday between the Ethiopian forces and the Popular Liberation Forces near the city of (Hilkota) in the western province. During the battles 40 Ethiopians were killed and the Eritreans captured huge quantities of light weapons.

Abu (Bakr) also noted that three Soviet warships are currently unloading sophisticated weapons at the seaport of Massowa in preparation for the eighth Ethiopian campaign against Eritrea and in order to create unrest and to launch attacks against a number of Arab and African countries within the framework of a concocted plan designed to enable Ethiopia to play this role.

SAUDI ARABIA

Foreign Minister Departs for Damascus 22 Nov

LD220925 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0850 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] Jidda, 22 Nov (SPA) — Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal left for Damascus this morning on a visit to Syria within the framework of efforts being exerted by the Kingdom to heal the rift within the ranks of brothers in Lebanon.

U.S. Energy Secretary Departs After Visit

GF210920 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] U.S. Energy Secretary Donald Hodel left Riyadh this morning after concluding a 3-day visit. He was seen off by the Petroleum and Mineral Affairs Ministry under secretary for financial and administrative affairs, the ministry under secretary for atmosphere surveillance affairs, and a number of senior ministry officials.

Interior Minister Departs for Jordan Visit

LD201559 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0900 GMT 20 Nov 83

[Excerpt] Riyadh, 20 Nov (SPA) — His Royal Highness Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, minister of the interior, left Riyadh for Jordan this morning on a visit in response to the invitation of his Jordanian counterpart, Ahmad 'Ubayat.

Cabinet Reviews North Lebanon Situation

LD212147 Riyadh SPA in English 1923 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Excerpts] Riyadh, Nov 21, SPA — the Saudi Council of Ministers held its regular weekly meeting here tonight under the chairmanship of Saudi Deputy Premier and Defence and Aviation minister Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. The cabinet reviewed recent developments in north Lebanon and was briefed on information carried by media reports on fierce fighting in Tripoli, Saudi Information Minister 'Ali ash-Sha'ir said after the meeting tonight. It was also briefed on a call by PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat to Arab kings and heads of government as well as urged measures taken by HM King Fahd on the issue, he added.

Later, the cabinet reviewed a number of items on its agenda including a report submitted by finance and national economy Minister Muhammad Aba al-Khayl on activities of the general investment fund during 1982-83.

AL-NADWA Decries Multinational Forces in Lebanon

LD211333 Riyadh SPA in English 1209 GMT 21 Nov 83

[From the press review]

[Text] Riyadh 21 Nov (SPA) — The Mecca-based *AL-NADWA* criticised the biased role of the multi-national peace keeping forces in Lebanon and deplored fresh air attacks on some Lebanese positions. The paper questioned the role of these forces and asked if the powers to whom these forces belong were trying to place Lebanon under the mercy of their designs and force the country to yield to the Zionist vicious ambitions. Actions of multinational forces in Lebanon are but a violation of the country's sovereignty, the paper said. "Such forces should help current Arab efforts in bringing about national reconciliation among all Lebanese factions despite the explosive situation there" the paper added.

Turkish Minister Hands Message to King Fahd

LD211427 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1355 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] Riyadh, 21 Nov (SPA) — His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz today received Turkish National Defense Minister Haluk Bayulken at the Royal Court. He delivered a message from Turkish President Kenan Evren to his majesty. The meeting was attended by the foreign minister, His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, and the Turkish ambassador to the Kingdom.

Minister Departs for Kuwait

LD212321 Riyadh SPA in English 1931 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] Jidda, Nov 21, SPA — Turkish Defence Minister Haluk Bayulken left here today for Kuwait after a visit to Saudi Arabia during which he delivered a message to HM King Fahd for Turkish President Kenan Evren. He was seen off by Western Province Commander Major general Salih as-Sudays.

UAE

Security Ties With Kuwait Discussed

GF211033 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0850 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 21 Nov (WAKH) — Talks began today in Abu Dhabi between the UAE delegation, which is led by UAE Minister of State for Internal Affairs Major General Hammudah ibn 'Ali, and the Kuwaiti delegation, which is led by Kuwaiti Interior Minister Shaykh Nawwaf al-Ahmad al-Jabir. During the session Maj Gen Hammudah stressed the importance of exchanging expertise in such a way that satisfies the security interests of the two countries. He also praised the progress attained by the UAE in the field of police and security. During the meeting, the two sides reviewed the existing bilateral cooperation in the field of security and means to bolster and develop this cooperation.

Meeting With President

GF201402 Doha QNA in Arabic 1230 GMT 20 Nov 83

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 20 Nov (QNA) — UAE President His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan received a message from Kuwaiti Amir His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah dealing with bilateral relations and situation in the region. The message was conveyed by Kuwaiti Interior Minister Shaykh Nawwaf al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah during meeting with His Highness the president this morning. The meeting was attended by Lieutenant General Shaykh Khalifah ibn Zayid, Abu Dhabi heir apparent and deputy supreme commander of the Armed Forces.

Kuwaiti Minister to Muscat

GF220942 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0815 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] Dubayy, 22 Nov (WAKH) — Kuwaiti Interior Minister Shaykh Nawwaf al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah left Dubayy today for Muscat after concluding a 3-day visit to the UAE. During this visit, the Kuwaiti interior minister met with UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan and held talks with a number of UAE officials. Upon departure he was seen off by Minister of State for Internal Affairs Major General Hammudah ibn 'Ali and other senior UAE officials.

U.S. Energy Secretary Departs After 3-Day Visit

GF180920 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 18 Nov 83

[Text] U.S. Energy Secretary Donald Hodel left Abu Dhabi today for Saudi Arabia following a 3-day visit to the UAE. He was seen off at the airport by UAE Petroleum and Natural Resources Minister Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah and senior officials of the UAE Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Resources.

In a predeparture statement to WAM, the U.S. energy secretary said that he was satisfied with his talks with Dr al-'Utaybah and expressed hope that meetings between U.S. and UAE officials will continue so as to expand cooperation in the field of energy and petroleum. He said that his talks were useful and contributed toward strengthening U.S.-UAE relations.

Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah held another meeting today with the U.S. energy secretary during which they continued their discussion of the world market situation and related topics as well as cooperation between oil producing and oil consuming countries. In a statement after the meeting Al-'Utaybah expressed hope that the talks will contribute toward furthering cooperation and understanding between the UAE and the United States.

Mubarak Greets Al-Jumayyil on National Day

NC211505 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1255 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] Cairo, 21 Nov (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has sent the following congratulatory cable to Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil on Lebanon's national day:

On the occasion of your observance of your fraternal country's National Day, I am delighted to convey to you our heartfelt congratulations. I implore God almighty to crown with success your efforts for the sake of Lebanon's unity and territorial integrity and so that your fraternal people can enjoy security, safety, and stability. Please accept my sincerest greetings. I wish you continued health and the fraternal Lebanese people all progress and prosperity.

Foreign Minister 'Ali Views PLO Strife

PM212134 Rome LA REPUBBLICA in Italian 18 Nov 83 p 9

[Interview with Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali by Magdi Allam in Rome on 17 November]

[Excerpt] Rome — Question: PLO leader 'Arafat has been forced to dig in in Tripoli, having lost Al-Baddawi, his last stronghold in northern Lebanon. What is Egypt doing to save 'Arafat?

Answer: Egypt is opposed to any hegemony and imposition of tutelage over the PLO. We confirm our support for 'Arafat as the PLO's legitimate chairman. What is happening in Tripoli is damaging to the Palestinian issue and to the PLO's legitimacy. It is quite clear that the intervention of Syria and Libya lies behind the Palestinian rebels, since none of the Palestinian factions, and not even the PLO as a whole, has the mass of armaments used in the recent battles. As far as we are concerned, we are consulting with certain Arab countries and friends regarding how to meet 'Arafat's request to leave Tripoli once adequate guarantees for his men have been secured.

Question: Do you believe that it is still possible realistically to hope for a Palestinian state? What future do you see for the Palestinians?

Answer: What is happening at the moment is an obstacle to the assertion of Palestinian representativeness and therefore an obstacle to the achievement of overall peace in the Middle East. Those who believe that there can be a solution following a split within the PLO and with continued conflicts among the Lebanese factions are mistaken. I believe that the policy pursued by Syria is exacerbating the destabilization of the area and moving peace further away.

Question: You have recently visited Baghdad, Amman, and Rabat. President Mubarak has met with several Arab heads of state in New Delhi and New York. Are we close to a restoration of diplomatic relations between Egypt and the Arab countries?

Answer: Since the Arab states decided to break off relations with us we have never failed to honor our inter-Arab commitments. Unquestionably relations are now gradually improving at the bilateral level, and this is due to the fact that the Arabs are aware that they need Egypt. We are in favor of the restoration of Arabic solidarity and natural relations, though we now stress the priority of the relations' substance rather than their form.

Muhyi ad-Din Opens Cable With Call to Papandreou

NC191917 Cairo MENA English 1520 GMT 19 Nov 83

[Excerpt] Cairo, Nov 19 (MENA) — Premier Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din inaugurated here today the new 1,440-circuit maritime cable between Egypt and Greece with a telephone call to Greek Premier Andreas Papandreou. The inauguration ceremony was also attended by Minister of Transport and Communications Sulayman Mutawalli and his Greek counterpart Nikolaos Akritidhis as well as other senior officials. On the occasion Dr Muhyi ad-Din delivered a speech, in which he referred to the achievements so far made in the field of communications in Egypt, especially in Cairo. He also said that the coming generations will be grateful for the projects currently being implemented. He added that the two-billion pound sanitary drainage project, the Cairo-subway project, the telecommunications and water projects, as well as others, will all help alleviate the suffering of millions of hard working Egyptians.

Official Departs on Far East Tour 18 Nov

NC190844 Cairo MENA in English 1411 GMT 18 Nov 83

[Text] Cairo, Nov 18 (MENA) — Hasaballah al-Kafrawi, minister of reconstruction and [minister of] state for housing and land reclamation, left here today for Tokyo on a visit to Japan on the first leg of his ten-day Asian tour that will take him also to Singapore and South Korea. Al-Kafrawi will have talks with officials in the three countries on the possibility of fostering cooperation with Egypt in the fields of utilities, housing, reconstruction, and land reclamation.

Belgian Defense Minister Arrives in Cairo

NC190835 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1810 GMT 18 Nov 83

[Text] Cairo, 18 Nov (MENA) — Belgian National Defense Minister Elfred Vreven arrived in Cairo from Zaire this afternoon for a friendly visit. He will meet with Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production, to discuss various aspects of cooperation.

Meets Abu Ghazalah, Departs

NC191513 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1412 GMT 19 Nov 83

[Text] Cairo, 19 Nov (MENA) — Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production, received Belgian National Defense Minister Elfred Vreven today. Vreven then departed Cairo for home. During the meeting, which was attended by the Belgian ambassador in Cairo and a number of senior Armed Forces commanders, various aspects of cooperation between the two countries were discussed.

Canadian Finance Minister To Extend Aid

NC201508 Cairo MENA in English 1340 GMT 20 Nov 83

[Text] Cairo, Nov 20 (MENA) — Minister of Electricity Mahir Abaza today said that the Canadian Government has agreed to extend to the Egyptian Ministry of Electricity 20 million dollars to be used in the energy projects included in the five year plan. Five million of this sum are a grant and the rest in the form of soft loans. Following a meeting today with the visiting Canadian Minister of Finance Roy McLaren Abaza said that the Canadian minister expressed his country's readiness to contribute to Egypt's nuclear programme of setting up power generating and nuclear stations. The Canadian minister also conferred today with Wajih Shindi Minister of International Investment and Cooperation of means of boosting bilateral economic cooperation in the various fields. They also discussed means of activating tourism from Canada to Egypt. They agreed that two Canadian officials from the Canadian Aid Agency visit Egypt during the coming stage to discuss Egypt's requirements in the different sectors. The meeting was attended by the Canadian ambassador in Cairo.

Security Organ Questioning Muslim Extremists

NC220806 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0630 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] Cairo 22 Nov (MENA) — *AL-AHRAM* says that the supreme state security prosecution is presently interrogating 35 defendants belonging to the Society of Repudiation and Renunciation [at-takfir wa al-hijrah] who tried to reestablish the society after its members were tried in the case of the late Shaykh adh-Dhahabi. In its issue published today, the paper says state security intelligence has, for the first time, seized manuscripts outlining the society's organizational and functional structure. The state security intelligence has been pursuing the society's leaders who escaped during the trial. It has arrested six of its activists and raided several apartments belonging to the society's members in Al-Qanatir al-Khayriyah and in At-Tibbin in Hulwan. Some of the members made confessions implicating about 30 of their colleagues.

The paper said that intelligence officers have seized manuscripts from the society's members revealing the society's doctrine as formed by its founder, Shukri Mustafa — who was executed for the murder of the late Awqaf minister, Dr Shaykh adh-Dhahabi. The doctrine considers government and society as heretical and calls for seclusion and purification of the soul. It considers state mosques unfit for prayers, except those established during the era of 'Amr Ibn Al-'As, first Muslim conqueror of Egypt. The investigations have revealed, the paper says, that the society consists of a secretary general, a consultative council, ad hoc committees, and branch leaders in every governorate. The paper points out that the society finances its activity by taking two-thirds of the salaries of its members who work in the Arab countries, by collecting donations, and by running commercial enterprises. It was revealed that the society's code of conduct is based on strict obedience, denunciation [hijrah], and struggle [jihad]. The society's aim is to topple the government.

Cairo Radio on Need for Arab National Action

NC181940 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 18 Nov 83

[Usamah 'Abd al-Ghani commentary: "Arab National Action in Light of the Lebanese Events"]

[Text] Some people view the events in Lebanon, both in Tripoli and in the Al-Biqa' plain, within the context of the relations between the two superpowers. They see that the attack on the Palestinian Al-Baddawi camp is being carried out by dissident elements that are governed by foreign ideologies supported by Syria and Libya and that the raids on the Shi'ite barracks in the Al-Biqa' plain were carried out by planes operating within the Western strategic alliance. These people view the Arab national action in this framework. Israel might believe that with the departure of the Palestinian fighters from the Al-Baddawi camp, the last Palestinian stronghold in Lebanon has collapsed. What has perhaps contributed to this Israeli view is that the Palestinian fighters are not receiving from their Arab brothers the support that could prompt them to insist on struggling. It has perhaps escaped Israel that the Palestinian-Israeli confrontation in the Lebanese arena has not been and will not be the only confrontation. Approximately 500,000 Palestinians are living inside Israel; over 1 million Palestinians are living in the West Bank and Gaza; more than one-half of the total Palestinian population lives outside Israel and the occupied territories. All of them reject occupation and cling to their national soil and independent state.

What is more important is that comprehensive Arab confrontation of Israel, that includes the Palestinians together with the sons of the Arab nation, is lying in wait, even though its cinders are hidden under ashes. Egypt has sought to achieve peace in the area on the basis of justice, but Israel has not shown any readiness to bear the burdens of peace and believes that it can exploit the strategic alliances that support it and the ideological conflicts that divide the Arabs in order to achieve its ambitions and plans. Israel has been encouraged in this by the fact that some Arabs have not responded to the call to discard their disputes and to unify their ranks. Some of them have even caused more harm to the cause than Israel has done. In this respect, the *NEW YORK TIMES* published an editorial yesterday commenting on what has happened in Tripoli. The paper said that what Ari'el Sharon failed to achieve, President al-Asad succeeded in achieving.

Thus, the fate of Arab national action stands between the strategic alliances and the ideological affiliations — two choices, the sweeter of which is bitter. When the Arabs are capable of acting nationally, vigilantly, and freely, they will be able to impose a just and comprehensive peace on all parties.

Armed Forces General Command Communique No 1,287

JN211755 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1705 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Communique No 1,287 issued by Armed forces General Command on 21 November 1983]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

While pursuing their activities on land, at sea, and in the air against the forces of the suspect Khomeyniite clique our valiant Armed Forces will continue to be courageous and able, bringing good tidings to our great people and to our glorious Arab nation until final victory is scored over the unjust enemy, God willing.

The results of the activities are as follows:

1. At dawn today, a number of enemy naval targets were sighted in Khowr-e Musa, northeast of the Arabian Gulf, proceeding from the Iranian Khark Island with the intention of entering Khomeyni port. Our daring fighter aircraft and our valiant naval units attacked them, and at various times this morning, succeeded in hitting and destroying seven of these naval targets. Flames were seen engulfing these targets and columns of smoke were seen billowing from them while the other enemy targets dispersed in a confused manner and fled in panic. Our forward observation posts heard successive, violent explosions in the area where the targets were hit. The enemy was thrown into panic and confusion. It sent a number of its fighter aircraft and helicopters over the area where the enemy targets were hit and destroyed.. Our fighter aircraft intercepted an enemy aircraft formation, and at 0954, in a dogfight with the enemy planes, our planes shot down an enemy fighter aircraft over the Barkan area, east of Khowr-e Musa. The plane was identified as an F-14. After being hit, the enemy aircraft was seen crashing in flames and swallowed by the Arabian Gulf. The second enemy aircraft fled. All our fighter aircraft and naval units returned safely to base, praise be to God.

2. Our forward units pounded enemy positions, troop concentrations, and vehicles opposite their positions in the northern sector of the battlefield with all types of weapons, killing and wounding many and destroying six vehicles, two of which were carrying personnel, and one hardware stockpile. Enemy losses sustained opposite the positions of several of our forward units during the battles of the past 2 days in addition to what was mentioned in the military spokesman's statment issued yesterday amount to 963 killed, large numbers of wounded, many prisoners, and numbers of serviceable light and medium weapons and military hardware captured.

3. One of our forward units shelled several enemy positions opposite its positions east of Basra, scoring direct and effective hits. One enemy element was also killed in another area of the same sector.

4. On 60-mm mortar gun and one infantry position were destroyed in the central sector of the battlefield.

5. One was killed in the Maysan sector.

6. The rancorous Iranian regime today shelled Basra and its suburbs, wounding one woman and one child, and damaging several civilian installations.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 21 November 1983

Iranian Claims on Downing of Jet Denied

JN211859 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1835 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] Baghdad, 21 Nov (INA) — Iraq has denied Iranian claims that an Iraqi aircraft was downed in the Merivan area yesterday evening. An Iraqi military spokesman told INA tonight that these claims are baseless and that all the Iraqi fighter planes returned safely to base after carrying out their missions in the battlefield in a perfect manner.

RCC Decree on Voluntary Service in Armed Forces

JN211946 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Decree No 1,266 issued by RCC on 21 November 1983]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

RCC Decree No 1,266 dated 21 November 1983.

Decree: In accordance with paragraph A of Article 42 of the provisional constitution, the RCC decided the following in its session on 21 November 1983:

1. The following shall be taken into account when volunteering to serve in the Armed Forces:

a. Age shall not be less than 14 years and not more than 25 years for those volunterring in all Army corps.

b. Those who wish to volunteer shall present an Iraqi nationality certificate.

c. The rank of master sergeant, grade eight, shall replace the rank of warrant officer, eight class. Those holding the rank of master sergeant, grade eight, shall continue to be promoted to the rank of master sergeant, excellent class, according to the same promotion procedures applied to the warrant officers' classes. Those holding the rank of a master sergeant, grade eight or higher, shall enjoy the rights and privileges of a warrant officer, grade eight and higher.

d. The volunteer shall be retired on pension when he reaches 50 years of age or when he completes 25 years of retirement service if he so wishes.

e. Graduates of the vocational centers shall be given the rank of master sergeant, grade eight. The failures shall be transferred to the fighting corps in order to perform the compulsory service as draftees.

f. Graduates of the intermediate schools who volunteer in the fighting corps shall be given the rank of corporal at the end of a 1-year study at the corps' schools.

2. The volunteer shall be given the following privileges:

a. To complete study at evening schools, institutes, and colleges.

b. To continue his promotion until he gets the rank of officer.

c. Draftees who volunteer to serve shall be accepted and shall maintain their ranks.

3. The volunteer's service shall be of two kinds:

a. Temporary service according to a 7-years contract. This service shall be considered [word indistinct] of the compulsory service. The volunteeer shall be given the salary and rank which he deserves in accordance with the law. However, he shall not enjoy the rights and privileges which permanent volunteers enjoy except at the end of this period. Once the volunteeer wishes to continue his service he shall be given a reward of 2,000 dinars to be disbursed at the termination of that period.

b. Lawful service. This is the service stipulated by the articles of the military service and retirement law. The volunteer shall continue to perform this service until one of the reasons for its termination under the law is actualized.

4. The volunteer who does not wish to continue his service shall be disbanded as soon as he completes the period of voluntary service stipulated by the law.

5. Volunteers from the intermediate schools — scientific, literary, commercial, and industrial branches — shall be accepted as qualified warrant officers. After spending 3 years in this rank they shall be given the rank of lieutenant on condition that their age does not exceed 23 years for nonmilitary men and does not exceed 28 years for military men, and on condition that the military man must have spent not less than 12 years of service in the army.

6. Graduates of colleges shall be accepted to volunteer as officers on condition that they are not more than 28 years of ago and in accordance with the desire, specialization, and the army's need. If volunteeering graduates are military men, their age should not exceed 30 years and they should have served in the army for at least 12 years other than the period spent in basic training.

7. Graduates of the technical institutes establishment or other equivalent institutes shall be given the rank of a qualified warrant officer.

8. The rank of officer or qualified warrant officer shall be given to volunteers after completing the scheduled qualification course.

9. Those who are granted the rank of warrant officer, grade eight and higher, before the implementation of this decree shall continue to hold their ranks and enjoy all rights and privileges stated by the law.

10. The Defense Ministry shall be in charge of defining the badge of the rank of master sergeant, grade eight and higher, as stipulated in this decree.

11. This decree shall be put into effect as of the date of its publication in the *Official Gazette*. The defense minister shall issue instructions that facilitate the implementation of its articles.

[Signed] Saddam Husayn, RCC chairman

Tariq 'Aziz, Delegation on Moscow Visit

For Iraqi and Soviet reportage on the visit by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Tariq 'Aziz to Moscow, see the Middle East and North Africa section of the 22 November Soviet Union *Daily Report* and subsequent issues.

Trade Minister Hasan 'Ali, Delegation Visit Japan

For reportage on Minister of Trade Hasan 'Ali's visit to Japan and talks with Japanese Liberal Democratic Party officials, see the Japan section of the 22 November Asia and Pacific *Daily Report.*

Talks With Pakistan Begin in Baghdad 19 Nov

JN191632 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1305 GMT 19 Nov 83

[Text] Baghdad, 19 Nov (INA) — The third session of the joint Iraqi-Pakistani permanent ministerial committee for economic and technical cooperation began in the Irrigation Ministry here today. Minister of Irrigation 'Abd al-Wahhab Mahmud led the Iraqi side, while Ghulam Ishaq Khan, Pakistani minister of finance, commerce, planning, and provincial cooperation, led the Pakistani side.

The 5-day meetings will discuss the achievements of the second session, and the prospects and means of developing Iraqi-Pakistani economic, trade, and technical cooperation during the coming stage. The Iraqi side at the talks is comprised of Abu Talib 'Abd al-Muttalib, the Trade Ministry first under secretary, and representatives from the ministries of irrigation; agriculture and agrarian reform; housing and reconstruction; industry and minerals; finance; and planning. The Pakistani side included representatives from the ministries of construction, economic affairs, trade, industry, and the Pakistani ambassador in Baghdad. [ministry names as received]

Two subcommittee were formed during the talks. The first is economic, and the second is for trade. They will discuss bilateral cooperation in their respective fields.

All today, Iraqi Minister of Finance Hisham Hasan Tawfiq met with Ghulam Ishaq Khan, Pakistani minister of finance, commerce, planning, and provincial cooperation, to discuss bilateral cooperation in the economic and financial fields.

Hamid 'Alwan Confers With Egyptian Official

JN201553 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1320 GMT 20 Nov 83

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Nov (INA) — Hamid 'Alwan, Iraqi minister of state for foreign affairs, today met with Ash-Shafi'i 'Abd al-Hamid, Egyptian foreign under secretary, and his delegation, who are currently visiting Iraq. The two sides discussed bilateral relations, the Arab situation, and the developments of the Iraqi-Iranian war. The Egyptian foreign under secretary arrived here at dawn today.

Egyptian Official Leaves 22 Nov

JN221012 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0744 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] Baghdad, 22 Nov (INA) — Ash-Shafi'i 'Abd al-Hamid, Egyptian froeign under secretary, and his delegation left Baghdad at dawn today for Karachi. The Egyptian official has held talks with the Iraqi officials on bilateral relations, the Iraqi-Iran war, the current situation, and the dangers against the Arab region.

Oil Minister Returns From London OPEC Meeting

JN190847 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0715 GMT 19 Nov 83

[Text] Baghdad, 19 Nov (INA) — Oil Minister Qasim Ahmad Taqi returned here last night after participating in the OPEC ministerial committee meetings which were concluded in London yesterday.

The minister told INA that during its 2-day meetings the committee studied a working paper prepared by the organization's general secretariat. This paper included proposals on a long- term strategy for the organization.

He added that ministerial committee, which was chaired by the Saudi minister of petroleum and mineral affairs, adopted several recommendations regarding the abovementioned paper and that these recommendations will be submitted to the next OPEC ministerial conference in Geneva on 7 September.

Briefs

New Saudi Ambassador — Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, today received Tirad 'Abdallah al-Harithi, the newly appointed Saudi ambassador to Baghdad. 'Aziz received a copy of the ambassador's credentials. The head of the Foreign Ministry's protocol department attended the meeting. [Text][Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 19 Nov 83 JN]

King Husayn Addresses Military Graduates 21 Nov

JN211550 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1220 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Speech by King Husayn delivered at the graduation of the 24th class of Command and Staff College officers on 21 November 1983, carried within the "Newsreel" program — recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Brothers, honorable auidence: I extend my best greetings to you.

The day of your graduation gives me a special opportunity duringwhich I am glad to talk to you. Your long service in our Arab Army and the fraternal Arab armies has made you deeply aware of the duties everyone of you has to assume in the new positions awaiting you. With the experience you have acquired through training, in the trenches, and from fighting drills, and after this specialized study in the Command and Staff College has been made available to you, it has become your duty — and this falls within your ability — to acquaint yourselves with what is taking place in your large Arab homeland and to analyze the dangers and challenges, whichabound in the Arab arena, with logic, fairness, and responsibility. It has even become your duty to test the sincerity of principles and slogans, and the motives and intentions which govern these principles, guarantee their implementation, and indicate the seriousness of this or that Arab party's commitment to these principles, as what is taking place before your eyes becomes clear to you with all its dimensions and aims.

Dear brothers: At the beginning of this century the nation woke up on the call of late Al-Husayn ibn 'Ali, leader of the Arab revolution, and his strong echoing call on all the Arabs to liberate themselves and unite. The free and revolutionary Arabs rallied around the Arab banner. Pride, dignity, and the desire for Arab sovereignty, independence, and emancipation from the yoke of ignorance, weakness, and backwardness overwhelmed their hearts and consciences. Colonialism was not ignorant of the comprehensive awakening and the strong desire for development and unity that loomed large in the hearts of the Arabs. Therefore, colonialism drew up partitioning plans for this vital region of the Arab homeland. The allies disavowed the pledges they made to the leader of the Arab revolution. Their schemes and interests were in harmony with the schemes, interests, and ambitions of Zionism. This country — leadership and entity — was the first to realize the dangers and evils which were involved in this plot. It was even the first to confront this plot and to be cauterized by its fire.

Jordan has not abandoned its principles nor agreed to remain idle toward the chapters of the tragedy and the plot. It was the vanguard of the defenders of Palestine and the Palestinian people. It was at the head of those who fought for Arab rights. It continued to carry the worries resulting from the issue. We brethren, did not force ourselves into this issue nor agree to trade with it or bargain over it. We have lived its tragedy stage after stage and were cauterized by its fire since the Palestinian people's resistance of Zionism was popular and voluntary. The blood of Jordan's martyrs was mixed with that of the martyrs of Palestine. Since Israel emerged into existence we have placed all our destinies against it in defense of Palestine and in preservation of the land to where Prophet Muhammad journeyed at midnight and from where he ascended to heaven. Our blood watered the soil of Jerusalem, Bab al-Wad, Qalqilyah, As-Samu', and the rest of the towns, villages, plains, and mountains. In addition to our martyrs and sacrifices we did not hesitate to take part in every Arab effort. We sounded the alarm and called for the rectification of Arab action, the mobilization of efforts, and the assumption of the joint pan-Arab responsibility with complete sincerity, honor, and honesty. History, with its fair judgment, will stand witness to this country's stands, credibility, and sincere struggle.

Brethren, we have never distinguished between the interests of Palestine and Jordan because the two countries and the two peoples are linked with strong ties and common welfare and destiny. Any danger, harm, or aggression affecting Palestine and Jordan will inevitably affect every other Arab country no matter where it is located and how far it is. By defending Palestine — and this is our duty — we are defending our nation and ourselves.

Jordan is the defense line of the Palestinian land and people and is a bastion that protects the Arab nation's existence and destiny. The inter-Arab fighting in Lebanon and the internecine fighting over side differences which are created by the opportunists and those who play suspect roles, serve Israel and promote its aggressive policy and its settlement plans to usurp the land and expel its people.

How strong our pain is and how long our tragedy becomes when our blood is shed and our capabilities are squandered not for the sake of Palestine, but for the sake of conspiring against it and obstructing any joint Arab action aimed at its welfare and at liberating its sanctitities and rescuing its people and land. Otherwise, how can ethics or logic interpret some regimes' antagonizing the nation and failure to abide by any pan-Arab commitment as well as their violation of every pledge and promise?

People are puzzled about the Libyan regime's practices and intentions. They cannot find an explanation for this regime's actions. The Libyan regime has never adhered to any sacred promises and has not respected the rights imposed by brotherly ties. It abrogates in the morning the agreement which it approved the previous evening, and reneges on its pledges of its own free will. Such was its attitude toward Palestine and toward all the Arab causes. What is more bitter and painful is Libya's stand against fraternal Iraq and its betrayal of it in its war with Iran. No Arab ever thought, nor any man imagined that Syria and Libya would unite in their stand to violate the concepts of Islam, Arabism, and brotherhood, and to intentionally and unjustly side with Iran which is indulging in aggression against Iraq and the Arab Nation.

[Text] God's book says: If two parties among the believers fall into a quarrel, make ye peace between them; but if one of them transgresses beyond bounds against the other, then fight ye all against the one that transgresses until it complies with the command of God; but if it complies, then make peace betwen them with justice, and be fair: For God loves those who are fair and just. [Koranic verse]The Arab League Charter and the

Collective Arab Defense pact did not commit them to assist the brothers and to reward good actions by good actions. But if they had a reason or an excuse preventing them from responding to God's order or fulfilling their pledge, would it not have been more appropriate if they had adopted a neutral stand on this war, despite the fact right and wrong in this war are clearly defined and the fact that they were very well aware of its history and causes and Iran's continued trangressions against Iraq? God will be lying in wait for the oppressors who assist aggressor Iran, provide it with supplies, weapons, and overt and covert assistance. History will also be their judge because history neither shows mercy nor forgives.

What pains our hearts is that this stand, which some Arabs have adopted against Iraq, comes to complement Israel's efforts and is in harmony with Israel's stand against Iraq and its providing Iran with weapons. It is not a coincidence or a miscalculation for these roles to converge in order to cast doubts and commit massacres against the Palestinian people in the Al-Baddawi and Nahr al-Barid camps and in Tripoli and over the entire Lebanese territory — massacres which were more savage and threatening to the Palestinian cause than Israel's crimes in the Sabra and Shatila camps and in Beirut. This requires a unified, firm Arab stand toward them and their henchmen so as to stop their aggression and crimes against the Arab nation.

Brother graduates, it is necessary to reaffirm that the Palestinian cause is the core of the dispute in the Middle East. It is the principal Arab cause and sincere and serious action toward this cause will be the measure of any Arab effort, stand, and commitment.

This cause will continue to pose a threat and will remain a hotbed of explosion and the cause for instability in the great Arab homeland. Those who believe that this region may be able to enjoy security or live a normal life without the attainment of a just and honorable solution that will preserve the Palestinian land for the Paelstinian people, restore their homeland, and preserve the Arab pride and dignity, will be making grave mistakes and deluding themselves. This is our principle, the stand from which we will not budge, and our invitation to the Arabs to unite their word. We believe in this and proceed from it to champion any fraternal Arab country and to carry out sincere work with all, hand in hand and with our hearts united. From this premise, we have believed since the beginning that the Arabs' duty is to support Iraq because it has right on its side and is seeking peace while Iran has wrong on its side, insists on waging war, disregards Islam's call for peace, flouts Islamic mediations, scorns the international will, and rejects the settlement of the dispute between the two countries through peaceful means and on the basis of justice. Iraq has been calling for this and accepts it. By pursuing its aggression against Iraq and rejecting peace, Iran seems to follow Israel's footsteps in pursuing its aggression against the Arabs in Palestine and Lebanon. Otherwise, how can we explain Israel's support for Iran and its providing it with weapons?

Brother graduates, something must be said on the suspect terrorism and the cheap blackmail to which some regimes and organizations very well known for their deviations, treason, and their conspiracies against the Palestinian cause resort from time to time. They seek to harm our nation's values and enable the enemies to reach the Arabs' vulnerable points and distort their history. Shame on terrorism and its perpetrators for the crimes they had committed against Palestine which only brought defeat, displacement, and loss to the Palestinian cause.

Let it be clear and conspicuous and without any ambiguity that the Jordanian bastion is strong and impregnable, and that a treacherous bullet aimed at a citizen, the sound of a cowardly explosion, or the perpetration of a crime agaisnt the homeland and its citizens will only make our one Jordanian family more steadfast and impregnable. Moreover, such crimes will only make the Jordanian family show more scorn for the perpetrators and be more determined to deliver ruthless punishment to them without any mercy or hesitation. The security, prosperity, and stability which Jordan enjoys will not not be harmed by a faction which has sold out its conscience to the enemy and the devil. Every citizen, armed with his maturity and patriotism, will remain the guard of his country and a soldier who volunteers on the side of our Armed Forces and public security organs to protect this country and its pure soil and defend the security and stability of its citizens.

Brother graduates, how great and noble are the meanings of this beloved occasion shared by Arab brothers from Iraq, Kuwait, Bahrain, Yemen, Sudan, Algeria, Lebanon, the PLA, and also by brothers from France. It is a great pleasure for us to celebrate with them their graduation and to extend to all of them sincere congratulations and best wishes for success. We and all these comrades-in-arms are carrying out the same mission and are seeking the same objective. They experienced with us our common Arab concerns and they have become acquainted with the heavy burdens which this country is shouldering in its confrontation of the Arabs' enemies. I ask Almighty God to grant you success. Proceed with God's blessings as vanguards of good tidings, greatness, and victory. May God's peace and blessings be upon you.

King Husayn Receives Cable From 'Arafat

JN211640 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1610 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn today received the following cable from PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat:

His Majesty King Husayn, greetings: I send you this cable from within the siege in Tripoli while all the areas in Tripoli are being attacked by the Syrian and Libyan forces and some of thier agents. The city and the refugee camps are being shelled with rockets and heavy artillery. The city is now beig attacked from several axes: the Al-Baddawi camp-Al-Mankubiyah axis, the coastal road axis, the Al-Qubbah axis, and the At-Tabbannah axis.

The new development which took place today is that the Syrian forces have attacked Al-Qubah and At-Tabbanah areas, where only Lebanese Islamic and nationalist forces are present. The indiscriminate and infernal shelling by 154 heavy guns and 90 launchers has transformed the city into an area immersed in fire ahd smoke not to mention the round the clock explosions which fall on the heads of the Lebanese and Palestinian civilians in a new Karbala' massacre against the Lebanese and Palestinian people and against the PLO and its legitimate leadership.

From my position and in spite of all that we are suffering, I would like to thank you for your responsible move and approve any good initiative that you may undertake to prevent the shedding of blood and avert the pool of blood and the massacre which has been prepared for Tripoli.

Thank you and please accept my greetings and best wishes.

[Signed] Your brother Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee Chairman

SAWT ASH-SHA'B on Arab Silence Over Syrian Role

JN200927 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0520 GMT 20 Nov 83

[From the press reveiw]

[Text] In its editorial today, *SAWT ASH-SHA'B* says: It is difficult to believe that the Arab leaders have not yet formed an opinion regarding the dangers of what is happening among the Palestinians in Tripoli. It is difficult to believe that Arab conscience has not yet realized the size of the human catastrophe and massacre in the Lebanese city of Tripoli and the Palestinian refugee camps around it. It is also difficult to believe that the long Arab silence over what is happening in Tripoli is merely silent agreement to give Syria and Libya a free hand in the lives of Palestinians and Lebanese in Tripoli and its suburbs.

If there is no cause in the Arab arena that will make the Arab leaders meet, the terrible massacre perpetrated in Tripoli, which received 7,000 shells and rockets in 1 day from Arab hands, is motive enough to awaken and force the Arabs to end the crimes being openly perpetrated against the Arab cause. The Arab leaders have held conferences for causes which are less important than the besieging and shelling of an Arab city and less important than the destroying of the Palestinian will and the displacing of the Palestinian people.

Why is the truth not announced? Why do the Arab voices become low with the escalation of the massacres and brutal onslaughts perpetrated by the Syrian and Libyan forces against the Palestinians and Lebanese besieged in an Arab country — Lebanon — which is deprived of its will and incapable of confronting what is happening.

SAWT ASH-SHA'B asks: Why is the Syrian regime being allowed to seize Arab decisionmaking and obstruct Arab consensus particularly since the substitute to the absence of Arab decisionmaking is the bloodbath imposed by Syria on the Lebanese and Palestinians equally? Are the Arabs waiting for the elimination of 'Arafat and his wing before calling for an Arab meeting? Frankly, we do not believe that the Syrian regime is capable of obstructing the Arab will and seizing the Arab decisionmaking. The Arabs must state their stands and adopt moves to prevent the series of crimes perpetrated against the PLO and the Palestinian people the aim of which are dreams of hegemony over the Arab region and decisionmaking.

SAWT ASH-SHA'B adds: It is time the Arabs adopted a responsible and courageous move to end the tampering in the Arab arena and to contribute to saving Lebanon and the Palestinians from the conspiracy which concurs with the objectives of Zionism in the region. Israel's regional, expansionist objective is division and containment in the Arab region and is being implemented by some Arabs whose objectives directly or indirectly converge with the Zionist objectives which aim to increase Israel's superiority and hegemony.

SAWT ASH-SHA'B concludes: The continuation of Arab silence will encourage the crime being perpetrated against the Arab cause and the Palestinian and Lebanese people in particular. Will Arab conscience wake up with the roar of guns and wails of victims in Tripoli?

King Receives Visiting Canadian Delegation

JN211822 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn received at the Royal Court at noon today the visiting Canadian parliamentary delegation. His majesty explained to the delegation the situation and current developments of the Palestinian cause, which is the core of the Middle East conflict. His majesty outlined the situation in the occupied Arab territories and the suppressive practices and the settlement policy the Zionist authorities are implementing there to evacuate the citizens from their homeland. His majesty underlined the Jordanian stand's principles which depend on the inadmissible forcible seizure of other people's land by means of force and war, stressing that this agrees with UN Security Council's Resolution No 242. This necessitates the Israeli forces' withdrawal from the Arab territories occupied in 1967 and the recognition of the Palestinian people's legitimate rights, including their right to determine their fate and future on the soil of their homeland.

His majesty then touched on the current events in the Lebanese arena, the dangers ensuring from the Iranian aggression against Iraq, and the Iranian regime's obstinacy and rejection of all the peaceful initiatives, which aim at ending the war, bringing about peace, and preserving the rights of neighborliness between Iraq and Iran.

Iraq's Kittani Arrives in Amman 21 Nov

JN211155 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0915 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] Amman, 21 Nov (INA) — 'Ismat Kittani, Iraqi under secretary of foreign affairs, arrived here today on a short visit to Jordan within a tour of a number of Arab countries. In a statement to INA after his arrival, Kittani said that his visit to Jordan is for consultation and coordination between the two brotherly countries on matters concerning the Arab homeland, and particularly the coordination of stands on the international arenas.

Al-Jumayyil Address on Independence Day

NC211931 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1831 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Address by President Amin al-Jumayyil on 22 November Lebanese Independence Day — live or recorded]

[Text] Lebanese: The occasion of the independence anniversary — while there is an occupation in Lebanon — is the greatest incentive for a national and conscientious uprising, which the people seek at this phase in the form of a unified stand and of steps taken toward freedom and liberation. If the road to independence must be washed by blood, then all our roads and all our hillocks, mountains, and plains are paths that have been watered by the noble blood that has been offered as a blessed tax of an independence that is taken and that is not given! It is no exaggeration to say that 22 November is no longer confined to the birth of our independence inasmuch as every one of our days has become none other than an independence day and a holiday of martyrdom for the sake of freedom!

Lebanese, other states win their independence only once and they pay only one price and only one tax. However, our independence continues to be worth deserving, and, for the sake of our independence, we pay high taxes — and this is the secret of our state's immunity and steadfastness! Other states break free only once from the clutches of a mandate. However, we remain vulnerable — and this is the secret of our attachment to freedom and of our insistence on survival. Had it not been for this secret, Lebanon would not have stood its ground and it would not have remained firmly entrenched to brave the highly dangerous tempest that has swept over a homeland and over a people. Nor would Lebanon have overpowered the most redoubtable tribulation — and had this tribulation struck at any other homeland, this homeland would have been finished!

Other states hold festivals and put up decorations in joyful celebration of their independence day. This occasion brings to attention the thousands who mourn their cherished ones, the thousands who have become refugees in their own homeland, the thousands of evacuees who have no shelter, and the thousands of needy, of those in pain, and of those who fear for the future and for destiny. We bear with them the brunt of the ordeals and of the injustice of destiny. However, everyone bears the brunt within his own scope. And the government is in the fore, as far as responsibility for these thousands is concerned. The government appreciates the great national responsibilities. It is credit enough that these thousands are generously sacrificing the things that are most dear to their hearts for the sake of a free, independent, and stable Lebanon so that the precious sacrifices will furnish solace for the hearts, as well as the best balm for the deep wounds.

We pledge to them and to all Lebanese that we will spare no effort to complete the liberation of every town and village to the last inch and molecule of soil. We will never stop irrespective of sacrifices and difficulties. Signs hint that relaxation and the end of suffering are imminent. Our confidence and hope are being corroborated by the vigilance of the Lebanese, by their awareness of national feeling, and by their rising above all other considerations and self-interests out of their desire to preserve the threatened interest of the entire country. Moreover, our confidence is being strengthened by the Army's unity, firmness, and cohesion, a matter that reflects the people's unity, cohesion, and steadfastness. Also, our hope is being corroborated by the encouraging positive developments on the level of brothers and friends.

O Lebanese, I will not talk about the reasons of a predicament that exploded in our country 9 years ago, nor will I remind you of its factors and continuing interactions. I believe that you lived through this predicament stage by stage and event by event. I will not go into details about the regional desire [ar-rughbah al-iqlimiyah] that is competing for setting up strategic balances in our land, nor about the great international struggle that is drawing us into the game of interests and influence.

I will not dwell over the effects of the external conflicts in the south, north, and the Al-Biqa'. The bitter results always reflect on the Lebanese people in terms of death, destruction, and evacuations. It suffices to confine all the results and implications in one major issue: the occupation of the land and the recession of the state's shadow and of its security forces, thus making it possible to play havoc with the land and to oppress the people.

No solution or treatment can be expected without the realization of the salvation march, which is crystallized in three direct objectives: The first and most important is pushing the national will toward the best course for ending the occupation, without waiting for a national unanimity or a dialogue. The next important is work with the friendly major powers, particularly the United States, to secure the Israeli Army's total withdrawal from Lebanon.

The third objective is reaching an understanding with the Syrian Arab Republic on scheduling the withdrawal of its forces from Lebanon. We must express our satisfaction with the positive results of the Geneva conference in terms of these three particular objectives. Let us go ahead with completing every effort and step on the level of fraternal and friendly forces, as well as on the level of all the Lebanese forces and of all the people, their leadership, and their representatives.

O Lebanese, you and I know that independence cannot be realized at the hands of one faction but not the other, of one party but not the other, one group, or of a regime isolated from the people. Independence is an achievement crystallizing the solid unanimous will of any nation. The independence of a nation, regardless of how influential and powerful it may be, will remain dependent on the people's will, which constitutes a fence for the border before the armies.

I see in the Geneva conference a clear crystallization of this will and the start of a fateful stage to restore the independence — a will very much similar to the will of the Forties. History will speak well of our men who were active in both periods and worked twice for independence. It will also speak of the dutiful generations who crystallized the dream of their fathers and forefathers in a long epic of martyrdom. This epic symbolizes the impregnable independence and is a course of pride for a great homeland, which is Lebanon. Lebanon has not waged a battle with fate without triumphing. May you long live and long live Lebanon.

Report on Al-Jumayyil-Rumsfeld Meeting 20 Nov

NC211227 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] U.S. Presidential Envoy Donald Rumsfeld returned to Beirut last night and held a meeting with President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil. The meeting continued until a late hour. It was attended by Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim and Dr Wadi' Haddad, presidential adviser for national affairs. During the meeting, the U.S. envoy presented the results of his European, Arab, and Middle Eastern tour and of the talks he had with the officials in the states he visited on the situation in Lebanon and the acceleration of the withdrawal of the foreign forces from Lebanese territory. Informed sources described the meeting as positive, with regard to both the results of Rumsfeld's contacts and the affirmation of the U.S. commitment to have the foreign forces withdraw from Lebanon. It was later learned that Rumsfeld left Beirut for Washington today to present a report to U.S. President Ronald Reagan on the results of his contacts during his tour. A U.S. assessment will be made of the results of these contacts preparatory to working out the future plan of action for the U.S. envoy.

Al-Wazzan on Cabinet Meeting, Saudi Talks

NC212003 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Excerpts] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil tonight visited Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan at the Government House, where Prime Minister al-Wazzan was chairing a Cabinet meeting. President al-Jumayyil congratulated Prime Minister al-Wazzan and the ministers on Independence Day and chaired part of the Cabinet meeting before leaving. The Cabinet meeting ended at 1930. Prime Minister al-Wazzan later said the following:

[Begin recording] [Al-Wazzan] Following our return from Saudi Arabia and due to several pending issues, it was inevitable that we hold a Cabinet meeting. I briefed the ministers on the outcome of our visit to Saudi Arabia and on the talks held there, which will ultimately lead to Lebanon's aspired liberation and salvation. There were three thorny and urgent subjects discussed: the questions of Tripoli, the south, and the displaced people. It was necessary that we discuss these important questions and draw up some joint directives at the Cabinet meeting so that the ministers will act — each in his field — in light of what has been agreed upon.

[Unidentified reporter] Mr Prime Minister, there is much speculation about the Saudi-Lebanese summit. In addition to what Lebanon has asked Saudi Arabia for, can it be said that Saudi Arabia asked Lebanon to work in any field in parallel with it to ultimately achieve Lebanon's goal?

[Al-Wazzan] In such questions, there are natural roles dictated on states and powers. We are incapable at present of offering anything to deliver ourselves from the danger we are living through. Naturally, we have a general Arab role, which we have never and will never fail to fulfill in spite of the wounds we have sustained. We insist on staying in the arena to perform this role. However, we may be allowed to say that in these days we ask all sides to carry out their real role to save Lebanon, because if Lebanon is not saved the area will not be saved and harm will befall it. The progress of events will show how we moved from behind a barrier in 'Ayn ar-Rummanah and in Ash-Shiyah [in Beirut] to face rockets in the mountains and on warships.

We must understand that the one who will ultimately pay the price is Lebanon and the Lebanese, and that we must seek a speedy conclusion of this dialogue and reach an accord that will bridge the gaps that led to the present situation. We must bring about an accord as soon as possible. Without it the danger will continue and will not spare any side. [end recording]

Broken Relations with YAR, Libya, Iran Predicted

NC220722 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0625 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] In its issue today, the [Phalangist] newspaper *AL-'AMAL* says that Lebanon has decided to sever its diplomatic relations with three states, two of which are Arab states, for having engaged in overt military intervention in a number of Lebanese areas.

The paper adds that the cadres of the Lebanese diplomatic missions to these states have begun arriving successively in Beirut. It is common knowledge that, some time ago, the Foreign Ministry secretary general summoned the representative of the YAR, as well as the representatives of Libya and Iran. The secretary general took up the Lebanese situation with these representatives.

Calm in Tripoli; Envoy Goes to Damascus

NC220919 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] According to reports received from Tripoli, comprehensive calm has been prevailing in the capital of the north since 0400. Most of the city's inhabitants spent last night in shelters.

It has been reported that a special envoy has gone to Damascus to start a dialogue on implementing [former] Prime Minister Rashid Karami's plan for the withdrawal of the gunmen from Tripoli and its suburbs.

VOL Reveals Plans Against 'French Interests'

NC211740 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] The Voice of Lebanon has received information that armed men belonging to the Hezbollah Party might carry out operations against French interests in Beirut in retaliation for the French Air Force raid against the Ba'labakk camps. The information says the plotters are seizing vehicles in Brital to execute their operations. The information also says SA-7 shoulder-fired antiaircraft missiles have been brought into Beirut's southern suburbs.

Warring Factions Reach Cease-Fire 21 Nov

NC211401 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1345 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] Citizen Joseph Habba'i was killed and two others were wounded in 'Ayn ar-Rummanah when a mortar shell fell on the Sannin quarter at 1500 today.

Although the sides reached a cease-fire agreement at 1520, the gunmen in the Ash-Shiyah area continue to direct their artillery shelling and machinegun fire against the Army positions on the old Sidon road up to Galerie Sim'an. The security forces cut the Galerie Sim'an road for security reasons. A fresh cease-fire agreement was reached a short while ago, and this will go into effect immediately.

Mufti Condemns Israeli Pilot's Return

JN220700 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] In Beirut, Shaykh Muhammad 'Ali al-Juzu, mufti of the Lebanese mountain, has strongly condemned the Lebanese Government's action of handing over to Israel the Israeli pilot whose plane crashed in Beirut. In a statement yesterday, Shaykh al-Juzu said that the Lebanese Government rushed to hand over the Zionist pilot while Israel is detaining thousands in the Ansar camp. The mufti demanded an investigation of this cowardly act and the punishment of those responsible.

Junblatt Bans Abu Shaqra From Making Statements

NC211914 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] It has been learned that Walid Junblatt has issued adecision banning Muhammad Abu Shaqra, the spiritual leader of the Druze community, from making any political statements or holding any meeting that Junblatt does not approve.

The decision also bans the Druze institutions from holding any meetings with any [word indistinct] leader. Junblatt party officials are pursuing Socialists in Beirut to persuade them to return to Ash-Shuwayfat and to subject them to new tribulations. The houses of those opposing these measures are burned after they are evicted from them. In case one of these dissidents escapes, his relatives are subjected to similar measures.

Leaders To Meet To Confront Israeli Measures

NC220930 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] Spiritual, economic, and political leaders will meet today in Sidon at the residence of Sidon Deputy Dr Nazih al-Bizri to prepare for a general conference of the south that is to decide on the steps to be taken to confront the Israeli measures that have led to the isolation of the south from the rest of Lebanon because of the closure of the Al-Awwali, Bisri, Batir, and Jazzin crossing points.

Karami on Solution To End Tripoli's 'Tragedy'

NC211418 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] Former Prime Minister Rashid Karami has emphasized that the departure of all fighters and their leaderships from the city is the only solution for ending Tripoli's tragedy. He said that this is the only solution that will put an end to the present deteriorating situation. He called for exerting every effort at various levels to bring about this demand.

Karami Chairs National Salvation Front Meeting

JN212100 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] The National Salvation Front has met under the chairmanship of former Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami and discussed the developments of the situation in the north and in Tripoli. In the light of the supreme national interest and the need to stop fighting and abide by the cease-fire, as indicated by the announcements made by the concerned Palestinian sides, the Front believes that cease-fire constitutes a first step toward the solution whose complete program was submitted by Rashid Karami. The National Salvation Front emphasizes its adoption of this program with the aim of rescuing Tripoli from dangers and catastrophes.

The National Salvation Front, while abiding by this progam, calls on the Palestinian sides to support it in putting the progam into practice in order to save Tripoli from destruction and preserve it as a national Lebanese citadel. The Front attaches a special importance to this program at this critical stage in which the Zionist enemy is adopting measures aimed at detaching the south from Lebanon and annexing it to the Zionist entity. Our heroic people in the south are putting up a heroic resistance against the Israeli occupation at a time when fleets are massed and when the Zionist enemy and the NATO forces are making threats and carrying out raids against the various parts of Lebanon. Steadfast, Arab Syria is confronting this aggression and inflicting losses which underline the will of steadfastness and confrontation. Forces should be unified and all energies and capabilities should be spared for participation in this fateful battle of national and pan-Arab destiny.

Foreign Newsmen Exit Linked With Sudan Events

NC211244 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] The Voice of Lebanon has learned that the foreign correspondents who have come to Lebanon to cover events in the north, the south, and the mountains have received instructions to leave immediately for Cairo. This move from Beirut to Cairo follows the tension on the Egyptian-Libyan and the Sudanese-Ethiopian borders. Sudan has announced a state of maximum alert and spoken about an impending Ethiopian-Libyan attack. Egypt has previously announced that over one half of its Army is deployed on the border with Libya.

President al-Asad Confers With Senior Officials

JN221235 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad today received Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant Ba'th Party secretary general; Prime Minister Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm; Comrade Zuhayr Mashariqah, assistant regional secretary of the Ba'th Party; 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; General Mustafa Talas, deputy commander in chief of the Army and Armed Forces and defense minister; and General Hikmat ash-Shihabi, chief of the Army Staff. He discussed state and party activities with them and issued instructions to them. He also reviewed the latest developments in the region.

Al-Asad Cables Al-Jumayyil on National Day

JN211545 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1520 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] Damascus, 21 Nov (SANA) — President Hafiz al-Asad today sent a cable to Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil, congratulating him on the occasion of the Lebanese National Day. The president expressed on behalf of the Syrian Arab people and in his own name his congratulations to President al-Jumayyil and the fraternal Lebanese people, coupled with the wishes of continued good health and happiness to President al-Jumayyil, and the hopes for the liberation of Lebanon from the Israeli enemy occupation and the realization of progress and prosperity for the Lebanese people.

Reportage on Hospitalization of Al-Asad

Heart Ailment Rumored

NC211701 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1645 GMT 21 Nov 8

[Text] Radio Free Lebanon has received exclusive information to the effect that Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad is suffering from a heart ailment and not from appendicitis as has previously been reported.

Health 'Improving Continuously'

JN211908 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1900 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] In Damascus the Syrian Presidency stressed that President Hafiz al-Asad's health is improving continuously. However, the date of his discharge from the hospital is still unknown. President al-Asad was admitted to the hospital on the 13th of this month.

Heart Attack Rumors Denied

JN221114 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1100 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] The Syrian president's press adviser announced in Damascus that President Hafiz al-Asad's health is good, and is steadily improving. He denied rumors that Al-Asad suffered a heart attack. He said that he did not know when Al-Asad would leave the hospital.

Receives Greetings From Leaders

JN191521 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 19 Nov 83

[Excerpt] President Hafiz al-Asad has received telephone calls and cables inquiring about his health and wishing him a quick recovery and good health.

The president received these calls and cables from: Saudi King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz; Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the 1 September Revolution; UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan; Kuwaiti Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah; President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, YSP Central Committee secretary general and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium; Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil; Italian President Alessandro Pertini; Saudi Crown Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz; Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Sabah, Kuwaiti heir apparent and prime minister; former Lebanese President Sulayman Franjiyyah; Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi; former U.S. President Jimmy Carter; Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq al-Qazzan; Qatari Foreign Minister Shaykh Suhaym ibn Hamad Al Thani [title as heard]; former Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami; PNC Speaker Khalid al-Fahum; Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt; Lebanese Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri; Lebanon's Mufti Shaykh Hasan Khalid; former Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid as-Sulh; Lebanese Deputy Rene Mu'auuad; Faysal Arslan; Al-Bashir as-Sayid, secretary general of the Pan-Arab movement in Tunisia; and Lebanese journalists' doyen Muhammad al-Ba'labakki.

Saudi Foreign Minister Arrives in Damascus 22 Nov

JN221025 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1015 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal arrived in Damascus today. 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam was at the head of those who received the guest minister.

Sees Khaddam

JN221243 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, this afternoon received Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal. Faruq ash-Shar', minister of state for foreign affairs attended the meeting. The talks dealt with the current Arab situation. The Saudi foreign minister arrived in Damascus today.

Armored Force Carries Out Tactical Exercise

JN212020 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] Upon the directives of President Hafiz al-Asad, commander in chief of the Army and Armed Forces, one of our armored formations carried out a live tactical exercise with the participation of the various ground corps and in cooperation with fighter planes and helicopter gunships. Comrade Dr Rif'at al-Asad, Ba'th Party Regional Command member and Defense Squads commander; Major General 'Ali Aslan, deputy chief of staff; and several officers from the General Command and the Army formations attended the practical implementation of the exercise. At the beginning of the implementation, the director of the exercise explained in detail the tactical concept and the stages of implementation. These stages begin by raising the level of combat preparedness and moving from the areas of concentration toward the enemy positions and end by occupying appropriate lines and sticking to them.

The formation's units began the attack after the way was paved for them by artillery and aircraft. These units inflicted massive losses on the enemy forces and forced them to withdraw from their defensive positions. The formation continued to implement its combat mission, developing its offensive in depth in cooperation with air landing units. It managed to repulse the enemy's operational units and occupy the appropriate lines in the depth of the enemy defenses. The exercise was characterized by accuracy and high combat effectiveness. The mock stands during the implementation were similar to the actual combat actions against the enemy, a matter which achieved the desired aims of this exercise. At the end of the exercise Comrade Dr Rif'at al-Asad and Maj Gen 'Ali Aslan toured the exercise field, inspected the implementing units, and met with the valiant fighters. The Defense Squads commander praised those who directed and implemented the exercise. He asked all to continue work and acquire further combat experience so that we can firmly confront our people's enemies and achieve our nation's aims in victory and liberation.

People's Assembly Speaker Meets USSR Ambassador

JN211745 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] Damascus — Vladimir Yukhin, USSR Ambassador in Damascus, has reiterated his country's support and complete backing for Syria's just struggle under President Hafiz al-Asad against imperialist-Zionist schemes of hegemony. During his meeting with People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud az-Zu'bi this morning, the ambassador asserted that the USSR is carefully watching the current events in the region, and that the USSR and Syria agree completely in their analyses of the current international situation which is passing through a very dangerous stage. The ambassador noted that the relations established on the bases of the friendship and cooperation agreement between both countries are continuously progressing. He expressed great satisfaction with the existing bilateral relations, asserting the need for developing them in the political, military, and economic spheres to serve the mutual interests.

Mahmud az-Zu'bi then spoke and highly praised the USSR positions which have always supported the just Arab issues and the struggle waged by our people in their confrontation of the imperialist and Zionist aggressive schemes and challenges. Az-Zu'bi asserted our people's determination under President Hafiz al-Asad to continue struggle in the battles of construction and liberation. Az-Zu'bi reviewed with the ambassador the current situation in the region and the international situations in general. Their viewpoints were identical. Az-Zu'bi reviewed some bilateral parliamentarian issues in the international parliamentarian circles, expressing satisfaction with the coordination of stands and the unity of ideas in these issues.

Further on Meeting

JN211924 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1810 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Excerpt] Damascus, 21 Nov (SANA) — Vladimir Yukhin, USSR ambassador in Damascus, has reiterated his country's support and complete backing for Syria's just struggle under President Hafiz al-Asad. The ambassador stressed that the USSR is carefully watching the current events in the region and that the USSR and Syria agree completely in their analyses of the current international situation which is passing through a very dangerous stage. The ambassador noted that the relations established on the bases of the friendship and cooperation agreement between both countries are continuously progressing and that what is being circulated by the tendentious and hostile news media about these relations is mere lies and absolutely untrue. This came during a meeting held today between the People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud az-Zu'bi and the ambassador.

AL-BA'TH Confirms Syria Ready For All Possibilities

JN210955 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 21 Nov 83

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Syria Is Above Fear," *AL-BA'TH* says: There has been no precedent in modern history similar to the current feverish onslaught against Syria — an onslaught that has utilized the Arabs' enemies and their agents that are present in various parts of the Arab world. These enemies and agents have played their roles with close coordination, beginning with feverish propaganda campaigns and false wailing over the destiny of Palestine and Arabism in Baghdad, Cairo, and Amman, and ending with the military arrangements which are ready for implementation in light of the present course of events.

Thus, we must affirm several facts derived from the lessons of the past and present and in whose light we shall explore the future. Syria has proved that it is not afraid of any type of threat and that it is not an easy morsel to be easily devoured. Syria has also proved that it is greater than threats and above fear. It has firmly opposed all attempts to encroach on its principled and firm stands as well as the attempts to rob it of its constant decision to defend Arab honor and dignity. Because Syria took this decision on the political, military, economic, and social levels, conspiracies and threats against it increased in order to soften this firm decision and endorse it in favor of hostility to Arabism. But this will never happen. Have the enemies not realized that Syria's decision — Syria of the Arabs and Al-Asad — is the decision of the Arab masses throughout the arena of Arab struggle?

Syria's enemies might have imagined that massing fleets and barges in the Mediterranean, dispatching more U.S. and multinational forces to Lebanon, and declaring a state of alert in Israel will negatively affect Syria's determination and constant decision to oppose the aggression. Yesterday, there were abnormalities within Lebanon's airspace. The enemy planes, protected by the planes of U.S. aircraft carriers, attacked nationalist forces areas and we downed two Zionist planes which were destroyed in our Arab land, the land which rejects occupation. The downing of the two planes was due to our constant decison to confront the treacherous aggressors. While observing the preliminary stages of the aggression which the U.S.-Zionist alliance is preparing, we confirm now, as we have done in the past, and will do in the future, that Syria is fully prepared for all possibilities and knows well how to respond to aggression and how to inflict big losses on the aggressors, wherever they are.

Damascus Radio on Aggression Against Syria

JN201645 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 20 Nov 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] Throughout history, the dangers to our nation were few compared with the great dangers our nation is facing these days. The parties to the common U.S.-NATO-Israeli aggression have assembled their forces and begun to play their roles. One party makes threats, another uses its planes to carry out raids against civilian positions without taking into consideration their right to live, and a third party reveals its ambitions in the Arab region as if it possesses a divine right to achieve those ambitions or as if the Arab territory is an open and free field for these parties. The tones of aggression are escalating in an unprecedented manner. This means that the results of this aggression will not be confined to only one field. The battle will include all cultural dimensions and all the means that are required for waging it.

Of course, our nation will not adopt a negative stand toward its cultural and historical duty, but will rise to the level required by this duty. To be more specific, our nation will not remain paralyzed or impotent. We will play an effective role in order to repulse and defeat our enemies regardless of the means of power that they possess or their skills in implementing the methods of aggression. Those parties have forgotten that our nation is among few nations against which campaigns of invasion and aggression have been carried out. This nation successfully overcame the ordeals resulting from those campaigns. Many invaders came to our region and were repulsed and defeated. Perhaps a quick review of the most significant historical incidents in our region will be sufficient to confirm this fact. Of course, the confrontation of the U.S.-NATO-Israeli hostile concentration urges us to mobilize all the pan-Arab potentials and to rise to the level required by this confrontation, because the plan to occupy Lebanon and to carry out an aggression against Syria will only be a link in a series of other plans to impose the hegemony of imperialism and Zionism over all parts of our region and consequently to threaten our Arab nation's pan-Arab existence.

By calling on all the sons of the nation to confront this serious stage, Syria reiterates that it will only be as the sons of our nation have known it to be. Syria has been and is still giving first priority to the higher pan-Arab interest over its regional interests and mobilizing all its potentials in the battles of destiny and honor. Syria does not hesitate to offer more sacrifices in order to safeguard the nation's dignity and to maintain its rights. The confrontation of the enemies during this current stage is not only a national and a pan-Arab duty, but also a message of civilization that all the sons of the nation must write with their blood and address to all those who attempt to carry out aggression, because our nation's rights are not free and because our territory will not be a vital field for achieving ambitions, but a graveyard for the invaders.

U.S., French, Israeli Raids in Lebanon Analyzed

JN211933 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1233 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] The method of air raids which the United States has been using in Lebanon after the operations against the headquarters of the U.S. Marines and the French paratroopers in Beirut, through Israel and France, and to which the United States itself may resort, is not a new method in U.S. policy. The United States resorted to this method in the past in order to heat its opponent's iron so it would become malleable and could be formed in accordance with Washington's wishes.

This U.S. method was clearly represented by what the United States carried out in Vietnam while the negotiations were taking place in Paris between the most imperialist country in the world — the United States — and the representatives of the valiant Vietnamese people. In every phase of negotiations, the United States escalated its aggression against the Vietnamese people by dispatching hundreds of planes to attack the cities, villages, and jungles, destroy the houses, burn the plantations, explode the dams, and spread death. At the negotiating table Henry Kissinger and Philip Habib were trying to change aggression into money. As the entire world knows, this U.S. method faced utter failure. The Vietnamese people did not weaken nor did they retreat from offering sacrifices. It was the United States and its forces which weakened and whose morale collapsed running away from the battlefield. Vietnam today is the symbol of a peoples' victory and an example of the defeat and ordained fate of colonialism in our age. It would be better for the rulers of the United States to recall what happened in Vietnam, the details of the negotiations held in Paris, and the repercussions of the U.S. raids on the negotiations. This may help the rulers of the United States in discovering the futility and harm of the method to which they resorted.

It would be better for France's Socialist rulers to remember the stupidity practiced in the past years by the French Socialist Government in the Arab arena and its consequences on France and the relations with the Arabs. This stupidity began in the Algerian war, the tripartite aggression against Egypt, and providing Israel with the nuclear reactor and arms, and ended by the stupid, failing air raid against Ba'labakk. This recall may help them in discovering the incorrect path and in realizing that this hostile policy which is riding on the U.S. bandwagon with full collaboration with Israel is against the national interests of France, against the French-Arab relations, and against all that General de Gaulle's national and independent policy has achieved in the Arab homeland. The rulers of France must realize that a few planes and soldiers cannot reverse history nor restore the positions, influence, and presence of French colonialism in this part of the world through provocations, aggressions, and violations of law. What the few planes and soldiers can do is destroy the position, respect, and interests which France has gained in the region since De Gaulle's courageous and chivalrous stand against the Israeli aggression in 1967.

Perhaps, there are some people in Washington and maybe in Paris who imagine that, with the help of Israel's outlaw rulers who are ready to commit any evil and aggression, they can intimidate the region by force, aggression, and military actions. They also imagine that they can impose their conditions, solutions, and settlements on other people, and they can turn their plans' failure into success. Those who have this idea are mistaken. Previous experiences have proven that Syria in particular and the Arab masses in general will not retreat before the threats, nor will they be scared by the moves of fleets or weakened by aggressive acts, raids, and provocations. Nobody can force Syria and the Arab masses to accept solutions which are hostile to the Arab masses' interests.

Shultz' Address to Jewish Meeting Reported

JN211325 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] Georgia — U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz has said that the United States will not accept the cancellation of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement that was concluded on 17 May 1983. In his address in Georgia to the Council of Jewish Federations on 19 November 1983, the text of which was broadcast in Washington yesterday, Shultz said withdrawing the U.S. contingent from the Multinational Force would be a big mistake. He added that such a decision would jeopardize opportunities to reach a political settlement and would rush things to a new chaos. Shultz also said that the U.S. role as a peace-making force would be weakened throughout the world. He commented on the false belief of those who think that the U.S. Government will avoid involvement in the delicate Middle East problems during the year of U.S. presidential elections.

Paper Links Shamir U.S. Visit to New Aggression

JN190814 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 19 Nov 83

[From the press review]

[Text] Commenting on terrorist Yitzhaq Shamir's visit to the United States, *ATH-THAWRAH* writes: It is not a coincidence that Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has decided to visit the United States at this particular time because the circumstances under which this visit is paid pose scores of questions about its aims, background, and relationship with the aggression plan drawn up by Washington and Tel Aviv to strike at Syria and the Lebanese Nationalist Movement factions. Although the U.S. side hinted that this visit comes within the framework of consultation and coordination with Israel, we can stress that it aims at promoting the existing strategic alliance between Washington and Tel Aviv to the level of undertaking joint military operations in Lebanon and the region.

This can be understood from the fact that Israeli war minister Moshe Arens will will accompany Shamir on his next visit to the United States. This visit cannot be ignored because it is part of the U.S.-Israeli plan to jointly carry out an aggression against Syria and Lebanon. What is important for the United States at this stage is to reformulate the Lebanese equation in a new manner so the result will be that of changing the Middle East map in favor of the large Zionist scheme that aims at establishing Greater Israel.

The paper adds: This means that Shamir's anticipated visit to the United States will not at all be ordinary because Reagan's administration seems to have decided to freeze everything until the end of the visit. This is due to the fact that the Israeli prime minister, who will take his war minister Arens with him, will be able to study even the minute details of the joint military action which the United States intends to carry out in Lebanon. It is essential to raise the degree of vigilance and alertness now and until Shamir leaves for Washington because the war of probabilities may break out the moment the Israeli prime minister leaves Tel Aviv with the option of war and aggression.

Press on Jordanian Regime's Role, Lebanon

JN201356 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 20 Nov 83

[Press review]

[Text] In its editorial today, under the headline "The Process of Escalation and the Role of the Agents," *AL-BA'TH* says: It is not unlikely and maybe it has already been asserted that the process of escalation, led by Washington in a desperate attempt to stop the expansion of Arab liberation which threatens all enemy schemes in the Arab region, could lead to a confrontation whose consequences cannot be predicted.

It is regrettable that Washington has succeeded in polarizing some parties in our Arab region and turned them into pawns to be moved in whatever direction serves U.S. objectives and schemes. The Jordanian regime, which prepared for the Israeli occupation of the West Bank through its coercible practices against our kinfolk there prior to 1967; namely, in 1965, and continued these practices in 1970, is a mere tool in the U.S. scheme and implements what it is asked to do. The Jordanian regime predicted 3 days ago that dangerous events will take place in the region within the coming days. This regime also announced that it has adopted certain measures which it did not specify, but what has been disseminated is the banning of Jordanian citizens from visiting Syria and putting the regime's forces on alert. The latter step is not for the confrontation of the Zionist enemy. It is not an exaggeration to say that all the measures adopted by the Jordanian regime are in fact in line with the conspiratorial forces that stand against the Arab nationalist forces, foremost being Syria. Perhaps the Sudan visit of U.S. President's envoy Donald Rumsfeld to Jordan after his sudden visit to Turkey falls within the framework of these Jordanian measures. *AL-BA'TH* continues: Yasir 'Arafat, who has been collaborating with all the enemies of the Palestine cause, said yesterday in a statement to Radio Monte Carlo that his mission in Tripoli has not yet ended. What does this mean? Does this statement not mean that he came to perpetrate a massacre to eliminate what was left of the Palestinian revolution as a result of his anti-national and anti-patriotic behavior?

'Arafat's statement is crystal clear. A few days before his departure from Beirut and with the full agreement of the enemies of the Palestine cause, 'Arafat tried to fabricate a confrontation with Syria. But 'Arafat is fully aware that Syria is greater than this trend, for Syria did not deal with him as he in the beginning had hoped. 'Arafat tried many times to eliminate the Palestinian revolution at the expense of the U.S.-Zionist solution, but the revolution has alwaysbeen stronger. 'Arafat's current attempt will fare no better than the previous attempts.

AL-BA'TH concludes: The convergence of interests between the main enemies and their agents in the region assert beyond doubt that a special arrangement is being prepared for this region. The characteristics of this arrangement have been manifested by Israel and France in the past few days against the Lebanese nationalist positions. In any case, he who thinks that the Arab nation's enemies and their agents are capable of repeating what happened in 1956 and 1967 is mistaken.

ATH-THAWRAH stresses the need for an Arab solution to the Lebanese crisis that will safeguard Lebanon's unity, independence, and sovereignty as well as providing Lebanon with political, military, economic, and social depth. The paper asserts that the U.S.-Israeli solution is the wedge that will divide Lebanon, destroy its civilization, demolish its role, and separate it from the Arab fold.

ATH-THAWRAH continues: This fact which is accepted in Lebanon and the Arab world must utilize all the sincere efforts in Lebanon to search for the path and manner of salvation and shorten the stages toward ending the Israeli invasion and the U.S. occupation.

Thus, Lebanon can be saved from the dangers of the Israeli expansionist scheme aimed at cutting off the south, emptying it of its inhabitants, and turning it into a northern bank of the Zionist entity and a base for new expansionist moves.

ATH-THAWRAH continues: Hence, any Lebanese or Arab effort must proceed from the fact that Israeli invasion and U.S. occupation must be ended and that all doors must be opened for an Arab solution which is also a Lebanese solution. Lebanon is a dear part of the Arab homeland.

ATH-THAWRAH concludes: Syria, which is firmly confronting the U.S. and Israeli conspiracy and the hostile threats and preparations has succeeded in foiling the plan aimed at Zionizing and dividing Lebanon and in imposing the reality of Arab Lebanon by force. Proceeding from this fact, Syria will continue to exert efforts to help Lebanon in its crisis, maintain Lebanon's unity and Arabism, and end Israeli-U.S. occupation of the Lebanese territories.

PSP Official Commends Syrian Forces' Stand

JN212038 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1850 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] The Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party [PSP] has praised the heroism and courage of the Arab Syrian Forces in repulsing the Zionist enemy and in defneding Lebanon's territories and skies. In a statement today, the PSP press official said: The heroes of the Golan and Jabal ash-Shaykh destroyed the Israeli superiority, and the same heroes yesterday downed Israel's planes while confronting the hegemony of fascism and aggression.

The PSP official added: The downing of the enemy planes which yesterday attacked the nationalist forces position represents the courageous national and pan-Arab stand of resistance and steadfastness as well as the historical, revolutionary, and unvanquished confromtation. The PSP press official said the new Israeli offensive exposes Israel's brutality and the nature and content of the Zionist- U.S.-NATO scheme aimed at controlling and imposing their hegemony over the Lebanese territory. This will be a prelude to the second stage of the scheme; namely, to use these territories as a bridgehead and a base for launching attacks against steadfast Syria. The PSP press official concluded his statement saying that the courage of the Syrian heroes and the Lebanese progressive nationalists in their joint repulse of Israel's aggression and planes is an example of the national revolution firmly rooted in Lebanon, a brilliant picture of the Arab revolution and the nature of the Syrian people as well as their readiness and capability for confrontation and fighting until victory.

As-Sa'iqah Forces Hold 'Speech Rally'

JN212104 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Excerpts] The Popular Liberation War Vanguards As-Sa'iqah forces held a big speech rally today under the patronage of Comrade 'Abdallah al-Hamar, the assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, on the 13th anniversary of the corrective movement led by militant President Hafiz al-Asad. Comrade Suhayl as-Suhayl, member of the party's national command, represented Comrade al-Ahmar in the rally.

Present at the rally were Comrade Salah al-Ma'ani, commander in chief of As-Sa'iqah forces; Brother 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar, member of the PLO Executive Committee and official PLO spokesman; Brother Samih Kuwayk, alias Qadri, member of the command of the Fatah uprising movement; Comrade 'Umar ash-Shihabi, member of the PFLP-GC's Political Bureau; the comrade members of the party's Palestine command; several representatives of the friendly diplomatic missions in Damascus; several representatives of the party's national organizations; huge masses representing Palestinians in Al-Yarmuk, [word indistinct], Khan Dannun camps; and popular Palestinian organizations in Syria.

Comrade Salah al-Ma'ani delivered the speech of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and As-Sa'iqah forces. He asserted that Syria has offered to Palestine what has not been offered by any other side. It offered aid in the shape of weapons, funds, training, and men. It turned every inch of the Syrian Arab land into a position for the Palestinian revolution.

He added that the Palestinian revolution has grown up, thanks to the support of Ba'thist Syria. President Hafiz al-Asad's efforts exerted between 1964-1974 contributed mainly to the recognition of the PLO as the Palestinian people's sole legitimate representative. But the deviationist 'Arafat leadership, which has been involved in the liquidation designs and the delusions of U.S. settlements through his meetings with Zionist generals, not only tried to end this cohesion but also created fabricated differences with Syria to justify its treason, its relinquishment of the rights, and its joining of the imperialist settlement's bandwagon. Therefore, the revolution's bases, fighters, and cadres were forced to revolt in order to drop the symbols of treason and deviation and to hoist again the banners of armed struggle to liberate Palestine and to further deepen the splendid fraternal cohesion between Arab Syria and the Palestinian revolution.

Concluding, Comrade al-Ma'ani reiterated the vows of faithfulness and struggle to Arab Syria and to the leader of the Arab struggle march, militant President Hafiz al-Asad. He pledged that the revolution will further entrench its march through the means of sacrifice, herosim, and glorious cohesion between Syria and the Palestinian revolution.

Brother Samih Abu Kuwayk, alias Qadri, then delivered the speech of the Palestinian revolution. He noted that today's celebration marking the anniversary of the corrective movement, which was led by militant Comrade Hafiz al-Asad, coincides with a time when the Palestinian arena is passing through a revolutionary labor which heralds the tidings of the birth of a new militant upsurge that will revive the masses' revolution, regain the revolution's prestige, contribute to the foiling of the U.S. design against our region, and prevent the PLO from becoming a partner to the U.S. settlement design.

He stressed that the revolutionary upsurge in Fatah is a daring attempt to stop the deviation inside this movement, particularly since 'Arafat and his clique have abandoned the Palestinian revolution's objectives and method of struggle. He added that Syria's growing strength, in its capacity as the Arab force depending on a clear and sound political course, is the noblest feature in our Arab nation's aspirations to restore its usurped rights, to invest its stolen resources, to preserve its humiliated integrity, and to foil all the aggressive conspiracies of imperialism, Zionism, and reaction.

Reportage on Visit of Canadian Senate Delegation

Received by Al-Kasm

JN191657 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1220 GMT 19 Nov 83

[Text] Damascus — At 1030 today, Prime Minister Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm received the Canadian Senate delegation headed by George (Van Rogin). People's Assembly member Salah Darwish and the Canadian ambassador in Damascus attended the meeting. Dr al-Kasm welcomed the Canadian delegation, and explained in detail the political facts that help to form the true picture both of the problems existing in this region and of their real causes.

In light of these facts, the prime minister asserted that Israel's continued aggressive role and the role practiced by the United States and some of its European allies will push the region toward tension and eruption [of hostilities] instead of peace. Al-Kasm also asserted that Syria's stand and its resistance of all intentions of hegemony and aggression represent the natural stand every group of people adopts in rejecting all forms of political and military interference. He added that Syria's stand supports every sincere effort to achieve just peace. During the meeting, they exchanged viewpoints on all the current issues and events of mutual concern. At the end of the meeting, the members of the Canadian delegation expressed their thanks and appreciation for the important explanation presented to them regarding the existing problems in the region.

Meets Khaddam, Haydar

JN191944 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1835 GMT 19 Nov 83

[Text] At 1830 today, 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, received a delegation from the Canadian Senate. The foreign minister explained the current situation in the Middle East to the delegation. The Canadian Senate delegation also met with Comrade Muhammad Haydar, member of the Ba'th Party National Command and head of the Foreign Relations Bureau. During the meeting, Comrade Haydar explained the principles and objectives of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, the role of the Progressive Front of National Union and its parties in Syria, and the relationship between the Ba'th Party and the authority. Comrade Haydar explained the Ba'th Party's stand aimed at supporting the Palestine cause and maintaining the unity of its factions. Comrade Haydar answered the questions directed by the delegation members.

Meets Az-Zu'bi, Leaves

JN201933 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 20 Nov 83

[Text] People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud az-Zu'bi this afternoon received the Canadian Senate delegation headed by (Henry Hex), in the presence of Dr Muhsin Bilal, chairman of the Arab and Foreign Affairs Committee of the People's Assembly; a number of the People's Assembly members; and the Canadian ambassador in Damascus. During the meeting, the talks dealt with the parliamentary relations between the two countries, the Middle East situation, and the incidents in the region. (Henry Hex) stressed the importance of promoting the parliamentary relations between the two countries in the fields of explaining facts and exchanging information. He also stressed that the delegation's visit to Syria was rich in the information that the delegation has acquired and the impressions it has formed by directly observing what is taking place in the region, and Syria's stands toward these incidents. The Canadian Senate delegation concluded its visit to Damascus and left this evening.

Shamir Interviewed on Syrian Buildup, Intentions

TA201740 Jerusalem Television Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 20 Nov 83

[Interview with Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by Marcelle Sagiv, in Hebrew, in the prime minister's office on 20 November — videotaped]

[Text][Sagiv][words indistinct] from the Syrian defense minister and his threats that Syria possesses missiles that are capable of hitting any target whatever inside Israel.

[Shamir] We know what types of missiles Syria has. For us this is nothing new, and we are not particularly worried by one type of missile or another. In general we are concerned about the fact that there is a neighboring country, not far from us, which constantly talks about war against Israel, threatens war when Israel has no aspirations or plans to attack anyone, and when all our neighbors know very well that anyone who has ever attacked us was duly punished.

[Sagiv] Mr Shamir, the Syrian buildup will undoubtedly be one of the main topics you will discuss during your U.S. visit. In light of that buildup, and because of it, will you request new types of arms from the United States and further cooperation in order to face that buildup?

[Shamir] We have had relations of friendship and cooperation with the United States for many years. The United States, like us, is interested in peace, stability, and the prevention of war in the Middle East. Clearly the United States must help Israel equip itself with all the appropriate [mat'imim] arms in order to deter war.

[Sagiv] Mr Shamir, you will no doubt raise the issue of military and strategic cooperation, and possibly also the matter of the memorandum of understanding which has so far not materialized. In what areas will you offer immediate, practical cooperation?

[Shamir] The talks will focus on various aspects of the relations between us and the United States. This time we are not talking about any special document, not even the memorandum of understanding. What is at issue is various forms of cooperation in various realms: The political, economic, and military fields, and maybe also in other areas.

[Sagiv] Will you suggest holding joint military maneuvers for Israeli and U.S. Armed Forces?

[Shamir] We have not yet talked about the details. The talks, after all, are bilateral and there will be U.S. proposals and Israeli suggestions. Right now I am unable to state everything we will offer or detail all the ideas that will be broached in the course of the meetings.

[Sagiv] Would you expect the United States to raise the idea of the joint exercises?

[Shamir] I do not know what the United States will raise in those talks, but I am not dismissing the possibility of such exercises.

[Sagiv] Mr Shamir, today the IDF carried out aerial activity against terrorist bases in Lebanon, and an Israeli aircraft was downed. Does this mark the resumption of the aerial activity that was so prevalent prior to the Peace for Galilee war against terrorist bases in Lebanon?

[Shamir] It is nothing new. After all, Israel's policy has always been to fight against the terrorists wherever they are. We will fight them, hit them in Lebanon and in other places, as long as their efforts are directed at attacking Israel and inflicting damage on it.

[Sagiv] If that is the case, do you expect that this kind of activity as well as other activities will increase in light of the terrorists' activity against the IDF?

[Shamir] I will not tell the terrorists and their friends in advance what Israel will do; but Israel will operate the way it did in the past, and will also employ measures it has not used before, in order to put an end to all attacks against Israel.

[Sagiv] Mr Prime Minister, over the past few days you hinted at the possiblity that Israel will terminate its presence in Lebanon soon, as you put it. Could you say that the IDF will pull out by next spring, for example, if there is no confrontation with Syria?

[Shamir] I have also said that I cannot set any time frame. We will leave Lebanon once we are assured that after we have left we will not be attacked from Lebanese soil.

[Sagiv] Under what conditions will we be able to rest assured that this is truly what will happen?

[Shamir] After such security arrangements are reached that would provide us with the guarantees that Lebanese territory will no longer constitute the base for attacks against Israel.

[Sagiv] But, Mr Prime Minister, you know that the agreement signed between Israel and Lebanon last May is in fact frozen, and Syria is pushing for its abrogation. If Syria really succeeds in its efforts, what will Israel's reaction be?

[Shamir] Israel has decided — and will abide by that resolution — not to depart from Lebanon before satisfactory security arrangements are agreed upon. The accord with Lebanon includes such arrangements [hesderim]. If they are invalidated, we will have no cause to leave Lebanon.

[Sagiv] And what is the alternative, that we will remain there for years?

[Shamir] We will always be able to find the way to secure our border, and besides, I am convinced the Lebanese Government will insist that the agreement to which it is a signatory will be upheld, and that it will be faithful to it.

[Sagiv] Mr Prime Minister, do you intend to take a new initiative to solve the Palestinian problem, in view of the developments that have recently taken shape inside the PLO, and in light of the latest declaration made by the U.S. secretary of state, hinting at a possible change in King Husayn's position?

[Shamir] In fact, in light of what is happening in Tripoli, and the decline of the terrorist organization called the PLO, a change and a turning point is called for among the Arab Palestinian public. After all, it is high time that they realized that this path of the PLO only leads to disasters. They should understand that the only course that could advance them is the road of negotiations, the road of coexistence with Israel. If such voices can be heard, and if we observe a change in that direction, we will encourage it.

[Sagiv] Do you mean a change on the part of the Palestinians in Judaea and Samaria, or a change on the part of King Husayn?

[Shamir] The change should be on the part of everyone: On the part of Egypt, which is our partner to the Camp David negotiations; along with Jordan, which has a special role to fulfil according to these agreements; and certainly the Arabs of Eretz Yisra'el, who can participate in these negotiations as members of the Jordanian and Egyptian delegations.

[Sagiv] Mr Shamir, when you are in Washington, one could pretty safely assume that administration leaders will once again raise the Reagan plan, first conceived in September 1982. What will your position be?

[Shamir] Our position is well known and has not changed.

[Sagiv] In other words, you still object to the plan as presented by President Reagan?

[Shamir] We believe that the only practical, realistic plan for the solution of the problems of Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza is the plan included in the Camp David agreements.

[Sagiv] If that is the case, we get to a special date. Yesterday was the 5th anniversary of the visit by the late Egyptian President, Anwar as-Sadat. Could you address yourself to the state of relations with Egypt today? Are you disappointed with that state of relations?

[Shamir] I would say that I am not happy with the state of those relations. I am pleased, however, with the fact that there are peaceful relations between us and Egypt, thanks to the Camp David agreements. However, we believed that the relations would develop further, that there would be full and normal relations of peace — but we were not fortunate enough to witness this. I would like to see close ties between thousands of Israelis and thousands of Egyptians in all walks of life; and I would like to see a stronger and deeper peace, spanning larger strata. We do not have this, but still one should not despair.

[Sagiv] Do you expect Egypt to change its mind and bring back its ambassador to Israel soon ?

[Shamir] I certainly expect this and certainly want this to happen.

[Sagiv] With your permission, let us move on to another issue that has to do with the domestic scene. Do you intend to announce the appointment of a new foreign minister — say David Levi — upon your return from the United States? If so, how will you overcome the differences of opinion with the Liberal Party?

[Shamir] You are asking for too much. [Laughing, joined by Sagiv]

I said, when the Cabinet was first formed, that for a few months I will make no personnel changes in the Cabinet's composition. This is how things stand right now. I have not yet reached the stage where I feel, or the time has not yet arrived, where I feel that I must introduce changes in the Cabinet.

[Sagiv] That is to say, the present situation will continue?

[Shamir] It will for another certain period of time. When I reach that deadline, we will make our decisions.

[Sagiv] Mr Shamir, rumors have increased over the last few days that next week the opposition will submit a bill to dissolve the Knesset and hold early elections. Will the Likud support such a proposal?

[Shamir] The Likud will not support such a proposal, because there has long been an understanding and agreement [haskama] between the coalition parties that any decision on new elections should be acceptable to all the coalition components. Since there is no such decision, we will not accept such a proposal.

[Sagiv] Finally, Mr Shamir, allow me to ask you a personal question: How do you feel at the end of 40 days of your term as prime minister?

[Shamir] I feel that the road ahead of me is still long, that I must still do a lot of things, and I am ready to do them if I am given the opportunity.

[Sagiv] Thank you very much, Mr Prime Minister.

[Shamir] Thank you.

Shamir Comments on 'Closing Stages' of Lebanon War

TA181627 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 18 Nov 83 p 20

[Interview with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by Razi Guterman: "I Will Continue To Aim at a National Unity Government" — date and place not given]

[Excerpt][Question] A week ago you hinted that "We are coming close to the end of the Peace for Galilee campaign." Could you define in terms of time just how close we are to the end of the adventure in Lebanon?

[Answer] I cannot specify a date. But I repeat that we are in the closing stages of this war. I cannot say how long our stay there will last. However, taking into account our desire to achieve a suitable arrangement for our border with Lebanon, one that would permit us to remove our army from Lebanese soil, I think we are approaching the attainment of that objective. Our entire efforts are aimed at that. Our agreement with Lebanon from 17 May was built for that. Our talks with the United States — in everything involving the situation in Lebanon — has been intended for that. Our contacts with the various elements in Lebanon, all this ought to lead us to a guarantee of Israel's northern border, without there being any need for an Israeli military presence on Lebanese soil.

[Question] Can your visit to the United States at the end of the month and your meetings with President Reagan further an arrangement that will lead to the IDF's removal from Lebanon?

[Answer] I hope my visit to the United States will contribute to this. We will discuss with our friends the best ways to deal with the Lebanese problem and ways to create conditions in southern Lebanon that will permit us to maintain the agreement with Lebanon from last May, an agreement based on a simple, clear principle: sovereignty for Lebanon; security for Israel.

[Question] You are scheduled to hold a meeting with President Reagan while, on the surface, relations between Israel and the United States are being depicted as "ideal." Is this a genuine atmosphere, or is there a deliberate attempt here by the U.S. Administration to "be nice" to us before the Presidential election, and, in fact, everything is artificial, not genuine?

[Answer] There is not a trace of artificiality in the good atmosphere between the two countries and the closeness, the partnership and the identical views and feelings created recently between us and the United States. This is a result of the attempt in the recent past, as well as what has occurred over the past few months, when it was demonstrated to everyone that Israel and the United States have common enemies and face common dangers, and so they must also make common efforts to drive these enemies away and eliminate the danger. It is no small matter when the same disasters originating in the same nests of evil afflict the U.S. nation and the Israeli people almost simultaneously. This reinforces and makes the partnership closer, both from the ideological aspect and the practical aspect. This is a partnership of both values and interests.

[Question] Does it follow from this that the time is ripe for a discussion on strategic cooperation with the United States?

[Answer] In the United States we will discuss details of comprehensive cooperation, both strategic and military. We will discuss the ways to achieve the common objectives which can be lumped together in one thing: a desire to fortify and defend peace and stability in the Middle East. This is both a U.S. and an Israeli interest.

[Question] Despite the fact that there are various not so pro-Israeli actions and statements in Ronald Reagan's "record," do you expect to meet a President who is friendly to Israel in the White House?

[Answer] I am sure of it. Our friendly relations with the United States are not without tones of differences of opinion from time to time. But recently what has been very prominent is the cooperation and identification, while the differences of opinion have been taken out of the limelight. They do apparently exist, but today they are less in the limelight as compared with what brings us closer and what we have in common.

[Question] In view of Syria's military reinforcement with sophisticated Soviet weapons and its threats of war, will requests for the supply of modern weapons to Israel also be raised at your talks in the United States?

[Answer] Yes, definitely. We will discuss all the aspects of our relations with the United States and we will, of course, include military aid in this. We will also discuss cooperation in the various military fields, and economic aid, about which there is no need to expand these days. We will also discuss political cooperation and coordination between the two countries in various arenas.

[Question] This week the director general of the Foreign Ministry visited Egypt. Is there Egyptian willingness to improve the atmosphere in relations with us?

[Answer] The very fact of the ministry's director general's visit is an expression of the Egyptians' desire to improve the relations. There will be a continuation of that dialogue on the level of senior officials. We expect a return visit by an Egyptian envoy in the near future, apparently on the level equivalent to our director general. On the matter of the autonomy talks, the Egyptians say they see no benefit in the resumption of talks if Jordan and even the Palestinians do not participate, although according to the Camp David agreements, it is Egypt's duty to conduct the autonomy negotiations, even if the parties responsible do not present themselves. For our part, we are prepared for Jordan's incorporation, and in accordance with the Camp David agreements, the incorporation of representatives of the Arabs of Eretz Yisra'el, who will participate in the Egyptian and Jordanian delegations.

[Question] Two years ago, in New York, you met with Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko. Have there been any further contacts since then with the Russians and is there any chance of a renewal of diplomatic relations with them?

[Answer] Today, too, I am prepared to talk with Gromyko. For us, nothing has changed in our position. The trouble is that the Soviet Union has not changed.... We do not see any change in the negative Soviet position, which totally ignores Israel's interests in the area and negates the rights of the Jewish nation and the right to immigrate to Israel. We are constantly aiming at the possibility of improving our relations with the Soviet Union, because of our interest in maintaining normal relations with each one of the great powers, and also from concern for the members of the Jewish people in the Soviet Union. To date our attempts have come to naught. There are attempts all the time, however, and we are sparing no attempt to lead to talks with the Russians and a renewal of the diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union. I am personally very interested in this!

[Question] Last year you made an attempt to penetrate the black continent again and renew diplomatic relations with countries in Africa. What emerged from that attempt?

[Answer] The attempts in that direction are continuing with full vigor. We maintain contacts with many countries in the Third World; we hold many meetings and talks; and there is a great response to our demands [tevi'otenu]. There are still obstacles, however, on the road to the establishment of full, normal relations and we hope to overcome them in the near future.

Team Leaves To Prepare Shamir, Arens U.S. Visit

TA201908 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 20 Nov 83

[Text] The team preparing the visit of Mr Shamir and Mr Arens will leave for Washington tonight. The team includes the Defense Ministry director general, the Foreign Ministry deputy director general, the prime minister's military secretary,Hanan Bar-On, and the man designated to be his adviser for communication affairs, Avi Pazner.

Joint U.S.- Israeli Maneuvers in 1984 Reported

TA211131 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 21 Nov 83 pp 1, 11

[Report by Ilan Kfir]

[Excerpt] The U.S. and Israeli armies will apparently hold joint maneuvers next year, as a part of the program for strategic cooperation between the two countries. Senior political sources in Jerusalem last night assessed that political and security developments in the area would bring in their wake strategic cooperation on an unprecedented scale.

In preparatory talks between Israeli and U.S. officials, representatives of the United States revealed that the administration — in accordance with directives from President Ronald Reagan — would show great openness in discussions about coordination and deployment. They also said that the tragedy of the Marines — the attack against the Beirut headquarters — illustrated to the U.S. public the dangers with which Israel is coping, and especially the fact that the Soviet Union is behind Syria and the terrorists.

Haiti Foreign Minister Visits, Meets Leaders

TA201910 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 20 Nov 83

[Text] Haiti Minister for Foreign Affairs and Worship Jean Roberto Estime came to Israel this afternoon. He will meet the prime minister, the Knesset speaker and the Foreign Ministry administration, and will discuss economic and agricultural affairs. Minister David Levi, who welcomed him at Ben-Gurion airport, said that Israel will give Haiti aid in research and development areas.

Shamir Meeting 21 Nov

TA211027 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir this morning received Haitian Minister for Foreign Affairs and Worship Jean Roberto Estime, at his office in Jerusalem. Their talk centered on cooperation between the two countries in economic, medical, and agricultural spheres. The visitor told our correspondent that he would like to interest private elements in Israel in taking part in the aid program drawn up by President Reagan for Central American states.

Ben-Me'ir Comments After Meeting

TA211644 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] Deputy Foreign Minister Yehuda Ben-Me'ir said that events in Tripoli, where Arabs are prepared to kill each other mercilessly, again proves why Israel has to take care of its security. In a talk with the Haitian secretary of state for foreign affairs and worship, Ben-Me'ir said that the PLO no longer exists as an independent element but is a Syrian satellite.

Levi Attends Luncheon, Comments

TA211254 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1232 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister David Levi has warned the Syrians to stop their activities against Israel. Referring to the actions of the terrorists and the Israeli operations against them, Levi said they must be treated according to the saying: With someone who is about to kill you, you should kill him first. Asked whether the Air Force attack would not exacerbate tension in relations with Syria, the deputy prime minister replied: We are not in a state of peace with them anyway. David Levi was speaking with journalists at the end of a luncheon with the Haitian foreign minister.

Further on Levi Remarks

TA211715 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1505 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Report by unidentified correspondent — recorded]

[Text] Syria is declaring its aggresive intentions against Israel. Syria does not want peace with Israel or quiet and calm on the borders. This was stated by Deputy Prime Minister Levi in response to a question on the Israeli Air force attack yesterday. There is no danger that this attack will cause a deterioration in our relations, Levi said. Syria is preparing and getting stronger and its goal is to wage a war against Israel. We pay attention to the Syrian declarations. We do not want a conflict, God forbid, but being alert can prevent and deter. As for the IDF's policy, David Levi said that Israel cannot wait for the terrorists to act. We should act in accordance with the idea that when someone is about to kill you, you should kill him first.

Today the deputy prime minister met with the Haitian secretary of state for foreign affairs and worship. The two discussed the aid that Israel will extend to this Caribbean island. The aid will be in the areas of agriculture and medicine.

Shamir Comments on Syria

TA220627 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Excerpts] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir last night took part in a dinner for the Haitian secretary of state for foreign affairs and worship, and said there is no special tension between Israel and Syria. There is no special or new tension with Syria, the prime minister said. I do not believe Syria, at this stage, has aggressive intentions. The declarations, however, are aggressive and pose a certain danger which forces Israel to be on the alert. The prime minister said this to the Voice of Israel French department correspondent, who was present at the dinner for the Haitian secretary of state.

Tzipori Says Air Force Attack Message to Syria

TA211651 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1505 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] The latest Israeli Air Force attacks are a message to the Syrians so that they dare not give support to the terrorists. This was stated by Minister Mordekhay Tzipori during a visit to Basmat Tab'un this afternoon. Terrorist acts against the IDF were being organized from Syrian-controlled areas, the minister noted, and we decided to handle this. I hope, he added, that the Syrians will understand the message and restrain the terrorists to the best of their ability.

Arens Addresses Christian Moral Majority Meeting

TA192042 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 19 Nov 83

[Text] Defense Minister Moshe Arens spoke at the Diplomat Hotel in Jerusalem earlier this evening. He was addressing a conference of the Christian Moral Majority organization, which held its meeting in Jerusalem. This is a conservative Christian organization, whose leader is a Reverend Jerry Falwell. Defense Minister Moshe Arens said that if the peace-seeking countries will stand firm in the face of the threats of the terrorists in Lebanon, they will also be able to overcome acts of terrorism such as the booby-trapped vehicles which caused the death of the U.S. Marines in Beirut and of the IDF soldiers in Tyre. The defense minister stated that the kamikaze threats uttered by the Shi'ite leaders and their supporters in Iran should not be taken lightly. However, actions such as the bombings by Israel and France on such terrorist concentrations could ultimately wipe them out. The defense minister expressed the hope that strategic cooperation between Israel and the United States would intensify as the result of Prime Minister Shamir's visit with President Reagan next week.

Arens on U.S. Relations

TA200649 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 20 Nov 83

[Text] Defense Minister Moshe Arens has said Syria has gained from the lack of coordination of the United States, Israel, and Lebanon over the past 6 months. Speaking in Jerusalem last night before a group of the Moral Majority Christian group from the United States, Arens charged that until recently the United States had been keeping Israel at arm's length over Lebanon and this had led to a deterioration in Lebanon. The turning point, which he called heartrending, was the bomb blast at the American and French military headquarters in Beirut. The defense minister hoped that improved relations would be one result of the trip he and prime minister Shamir will make to Washington soon.

More from reporter David Essing.

[Begin recording][Essing] Defense Minister Arens spoke optimistically of what he called a new page of better U.S.- Israeli cooperation. This has not been the case recently, and Arens placed the blame squarely with those in Washington who sought an even-handed policy between democratic Israel and its totalitarian Arab neighbors. Arens hoped the United States now understands who it is dealing with in the Middle East: Khomeyni, Al-Qhadhdhafi, and the likes of Syria's President al-Asad, who has butchered 30,000 of his own people. The defense minister then turned to the more recent threats of Shi'ite terrorist leader Husayn al-Musawi.

[Arens] A man by the name of Al-Musawi who suddenly sprang into prominence, an Iranian ayatollah — I was going to say religious, but that's no religion, as far as I'm concerned — had just recently announced that in Ba'labakk that now that Israel and France have hit back, they will really begin a holy war against the United States, against France, against Israel. They will send kamikazes out to kill, out to murder. I wouldn't take these threats lightly, considering the atrocities that they have already perpetrated. But I tell you again that if we work together, if we use our brains and our guts, we will overcome this as well.

[Essing] The defense minister also hopes there is better understanding in Washington today for Israel's need to control Judaea and Samaria.

[Arens] If the United States wants Israel to be strong, and I know that it does, then the United States must understand that Israel cannot be strong if Judaea and Samaria is cut out of the area controlled by the State of Israel.

Report on 20 November Cabinet Agenda Items

TA192044 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 19 Nov 83

[Text] In tomorrow's Cabinet session there will be a discussion of Syria's military buildup, and of coordinated preparations [he'arkhut] by Israel and the United States in view of this buildup. Our correspondent reports that Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and Defense Minister Moshe Arens will wish to hear, in their talks in Washington, to what extent the United States will be ready to back up Israel in the event of a military confrontation with Syria. It was also learned recently that the United States may ask Israel to soften some of the clauses in the agreement with Lebanon, so as to leave Syria an honorable way out for pulling its forces out of Lebanon and, subsequently, the pulling out of the U.S. and Israeli forces. The prime minister and defense minister will leave for Washington in 1 week, and tomorrow's Cabinet session will thus be the last such meeting prior to their departure. This week the positions which the prime minister will present in his talks with Reagan, on Lebanon and on strategic cooperation between Israel and the United States, will be finalized.

The Cabinet is also expected to discuss in its meeting tomorrow the recommendations of the Ministerial Committee on Affairs of Middle East Refugees. Our correspondent Gil Sadan recalls that the rehabilitation of the refugee camps in the territories is a large-scale program, aiming at the rehabilitation of all the refugee camps, and was prepared by Minister Modekhay Ben-Porat. As per this program, most of the camps will be refurbished in their present locations, and will be linked to existing municipal authorities. The abandoned structures in the refugee camps near Jericho will be pulled down, and the few residents still living there will be transferred to Jericho. Our correspondent has learned that the planning in the field has already begun. The first camp in which the program is to be implemented is the Ad-Duhayshah camp, near Bethlehem, and the intention is to link it up with the sizable regional council in the district.

Levi Expresses Doubts on Economic Measures

TA210727 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 21 Nov 83 p 2

[Report by Avi Temkin]

[Excerpt] Deputy Prime Minister David Levi yesterday expressed doubts in the Cabinet regarding the latest economic measures of the government, charging that most of the burden would fall on the middle and lower income groups. Levi noted that these groups would be most affected by unemployment.

The deputy prime minister proposed a special ministerial committee to deal with unemployment, but he was opposed by Finance Minister Yig‘al Kohen-Orgad, who maintained that there were sufficient existing bodies to deal with the problem.

The government decided two weeks ago to impose an education levy, to tax some children's allowances and to remove tax exemptions from early pensions. It also decided to negotiate health charges with Kupat Holim Klalit. (General Sick Fund)

The Cabinet discussed how to encourage exports. Industry and Trade Minister Gid‘on Pat proposed that there should be a package of measures to encourage exports and said that the amount of unemployment in future months would depend on the speed with which resources can be transferred from local market production to exports. Pat has already conveyed his ideas on this to the Treasury and the officials there are working out the details. No details were given to the Cabinet yesterday.

Israel To Request Over $3 Billion in U.S. Aid

TA212039 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] Israel will ask the United States for economic aid of more than $3 billion for next year. This is the figure Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir will present in his meetings with U.S. Administration leaders in Washington next week. Our correspondent ‘Oded Shahar nevertheless reports that Mr Shamir will not ask for special U.S. aid to overcome the difficult economic situation in which Israel finds itself now, nor will he ask for a delay in the repayment of Israel's debts to the United States. The request for aid will be officially submitted after the prime minister's visit to the United States and the discussion of the request will apparently start at the beginning of January 1984.

HADASH MK Meets Moroccan King Hassan

TA211735 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] HADASH MK Charlie Biton recently met with Moroccan King Hassan who told him that he is ready to recognize Israel's existence on condition that Israel recognizes the Palestinians' rights, including the right to self-determination. Such an Israeli recognition will pave the way for recognition [of Israel] by other Arab countries. MK Biton said that the Moroccan king emphasized his sympathy for and good relationship with the Jews in his country.

Settlers Decide To Take Action in West Bank

TA211909 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] Tehiya is asking for an urgent meeting with the prime minister, before he leaves for the United States, to dicusss the deterioration of security in Judaea and Samaria. Our correspondent Shalom Oren was told that Mr Shamir will be asked to approve tougher punishment, deportation, and changes in the guidelines for opening fire at agitators in order to restore calm on the roads. Tehiya member Hanan Porat said that his movement is approaching the limits of its patience with the government on the subject of security in Judaea and Samaria. The leaders of the settlements conferred today with members of different Knesset factions and made secret decisions to act against disturbances in order to force the government to take a stand.

Portugal Refuses To Approve Israeli Envoy

TA141127 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 14 Nov 83 p 1

[Report by ‘Aqiva Eldar]

[Text] For the last month, the Portuguese president has refused to approve the appointment of the new Israeli ambassador to Lisbon. The president is angry over statements made by outgoing Ambassador Dov Milman following their last meeting before Milman's return to Israel. At the meeting, the president explained that due to financial difficulties he was considering appointing a non-resident as ambassador to Israel. After the meeting, Milman told this to reporters and it was made public in the Portuguese press. The President reacted sharply, and since then he has refused to approve the ppointment of Milman's replacement, Mr Yo‘el Barromi, whose nomination has long since been approved by the Israeli Cabinet.

Portugal still does not have an embassy in Israel, and in Jerusalem much importance was attributed to the appointment of a Portuguese ambassador, as well as a Spanish ambassador, to Israel. Many countries, including Israel, appoint a non-resident ambassador, who is then responsible for a number of consulates in his area. It has been learned that in the Foreign Ministry attempts are being made to overcome the obstacles with Portugal, and yesterday it was reported to the *HA'ARETZ* correspondent that there is hope that soon Barromi will be able to leave for Portugal.

Morning Press on U.S. Secretary Schultz Speech

TA210759 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0430 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Review of morning press editorials]

[Excerpts] *HA'ARETZ* notes that Secretary of State Schultz speech before the Council of Jewish Federations in Atlanta strengthens Israel's belief that Mr Schultz is a friend of Israel. The paper points out, however, that Mr Schultz stressed the considerable U.S. anxiety over the ongoing process of establishing and expanding settlements in the West Bank and Gaza. Nor was it a coincidence that he spoke to some 3,000 U.S. Jewish leaders of the collapse of the PLO as being an opportunity for King Husayn to join in a Reagan-based peace plan.

THE JERUSALEM POST states that Mr Schultz evidently believes that the turmoil in the PLO ranks will facilitate King Husyan's joining a peace initiative. This estimate may be overlyoptimistic. Mr Arens, on the other hand, must feel that the Palestinian Arabs, traumatized by Tripoli, will more readily accept Israel's claims. There is no reason, however, to assume that the Palestinians will prefer the Israeli boot to the Syrian. Most important, the paper adds, Mr Arens will find it difficult to convince a majority of Israelis that the annexation, formally or informally, of the occupied territories will strengthen and not weaken Israel's ability to withstand external danger — and that it will not, in the process, destroy the moral fiber of Israeli democracy.

Briefs

New Treasury Director General — The Cabinet today approved the appointment of Dr Imanu'el Sharon as director general of the Finance Ministry. Dr Sharon will take up his new job at the beginning of January. The present director general, Professor 'Ezra Sadan, will take up a position with Clal concern. [Text][Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1505 GMT 20 Nov 83 TA]

ALGERIA

Reportage on Visit by Lebanon's Junblatt

Arrives 20 November

LD211233 Algiers APS in English 1019 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] Algiers, 21/11/83 (APS) — Walid Junblatt, leader of the Lebanese Socialist Progressive Party, arrived here yesterday. He was greeted at the airport by Central Committee member Slimane Hoffman, chairman of FLN External Relations Commission.

Meets With Messaadia

LD211253 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] Brother Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, member of the Political Bureau and head of the Permanent Secretariat of the FLN Central Committee, received Walid Junblatt, leader of the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party, this morning. During the meeting, the latest developments in the Lebanese arena were studied, with particular emphasis on Palestinian issues. After agreeing on the major questions, they stressed the need for unity, dignity, and safety in Lebanon.

Foreign Minister Ibrahimi Receives USSR Envoy

LD212017 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] Dr Talib Ibrahimi has granted an audience to the Soviet ambassador in Algiers. Their meeting was devoted to a discussion of the critical situation being faced by Palestinian resistance forces.

In his talks with the Soviet diplomat, the chief of Algerian diplomacy expressed our country's extreme sensitivity and concern vis-a-vis the developments in southern Lebanon, which are part of an attempt to break up Arab ranks and liquidate Palestinian resistance. Dr Talib stressed that all those who believe in the justice of the Palestinian people's struggle have the duty to stop the fratricidal bloodshed and to consolidate Arab ranks around the Palestinian resistance.

AL-MAJALLAH Reports Arrest of Iranians

PM201815 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 19-25 Nov 83 p 9

[From "*AL-MAJALLAH* Correspondents' Dispatches"]

[Text] *AL-MAJALLAH* has learned from Arab diplomatic sources that the Algerian authorities recently arrested a group of Iranians who entered the country on forged Algerian passports. An investigation has revealed that the group intended to blow up the Air France office on Mauritania Street near the Iranian Embassy in the capital, Algiers.

LIBYA

Attempt on Life of Iraq's Saddam Husayn Reported

LD211412 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Text] Iraqi President Saddam Husayn miraculously escaped an attempt on his life last night. A state of emergency has been declared in Baghdad and the city is now under general alert. Armored cars have been seen in the streets. According to a dispatch published by the *DAILY MAIL*, a group of senior Iraqi Army officers has been placed under house arrest. The chief of Iraqi intelligence, Major Barzan Ibrahim at-Tikriti, has also been dismissed and placed under arrest.

MOROCCO

King Hassan Receives New Prime Minister

LD211455 Rabat MAP in English 1200 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] Rabat, Nov 21 (MAP) — King Hassan II of Morocco received Mr Karim Lamrani whom he appointed prime minister, a communique of the Ministry of Information, Youth and Sports announced on Saturday.

The monarch will appoint the rest of the new cabinet in the coming days, added the communique.

The appointment of this new cabinet was announced by the monarch in his November 6 speech, marking the 8th anniversary of the Green March.

In his speech, King Hassan II announced that the formation of this new cabinet is transitory, for it will prepare the general elections scheduled for late January or early February. The new cabinet will also be assigned with preparing the adequate atmosphere for [word indistinct] referendum [words indistinct] due to take place [word indistinct] the end of this year.

The leaders of the six major political parties among which the opposition party (USFP) will be represented in this new cabinet with the portfolio of minister of state.

Mr Lamrani, a top economist and technocrat with no political affiliation, replaces thus the former premier Maati Bouabid who was relieved of his post after he became head of a recently born political party "Al Ittihad Ad-Dusturi" (Constitutional Union).

The new prime minister has been at the head of the state, owned "Office Cherifien des Phosphates" (Morocco's board of phosphates) for 16 years. He was briefly named minister of finance and prime minister in charge of economic affairs in 1971-1972. In 1973 he was appointed president of the World Institute of Phosphates.

Senegal's Foreign Minister Arrives in Rabat

LD211533 Rabat MAP in English 1209 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] Rabat, 21 Nov (MAP) — Moustapha Niasse, Senegalese minister of state for foreign affairs, arrived here Saturday for a visit to Morocco.

This visit, he said upon arrival, "reflects the brotherly and friendly relations which exist between King Hassan II and President Abdou Diouf." It is also part of the process of permanent consultation established between Morocco and Senegal, he added.

CDT Head, Former Editor Released From Prison

LD211515 Rabat MAP in English 1211 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] Rabat, Nov 21 (MAP) — The secretary general of the Democratic Confederation of Labor (CDT) (a leftist organization close to the USFP) [Socialist Union of Popular Forces], Mr Mouniar Amouni and the editor in chief of the suspended daily *AL MOUHARRIR (a daily of the USFP) Mr. Mustapha Kar*chaoui were released on Saturday from the central prison of Casablanca, sources close to the Socialist Party (USFP) announced here.

Mr. Amaouni and Mr. Karchaoui were arrested in the wake of the 1981 bloody events of Casablanca during which people took to the streets to protest the prices rise of certain basic food. They were charged with disturbance to the public order, demonstration without permission and distribution of tracts.

Five other responsibles of the CDT and the USFP were arrested along with Amaoui and Karchaoui but were released soon after.

The release of these two opposition leaders was decided in the aftermath of the entry of the USFP into the new government of Mr Karim Lamrani.

SUDAN

African Ambassadors Briefed on 'Subversion'

JN211115 Khartoum SUNA in English 1040 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] Khartoum, Nov 21 (SUNA) — Foreign Affairs State Minister Mustafa Madani yesterday summoned to the Foreign Ministry African ambassadors to Khartoum and informed them about the Ethiopian Libyan backed subversion in southern Sudan. The minister explained to the ambassadors the role of both the Ethiopian and Libyan Governments in the recent subversive actions in the south.

He told them that Ethiopia began a series of hostile incidents that violated the provisions of a memorandum of understanding which had been agreed upon earlier between the two countries and the principles of good neighbourly relations. The Ethiopian authorities have established camps for anti-Sudanese and hostile elements on her territories, and with Libyan financing training and arming.

The Ethiopian Government has allowed those elements to engage in several attacks on our border villages causing losses in life and property in order to create instability in our country. The minister added that Ethiopian-armed elements and militias had taken up similar actions with the same tragic results.

The Ethiopian Air Force violated our airspace and bombarded innocent villages he told the diplomats. He pointed to last week's kidnapping of 11 foreign experts working at the Jonglei canal project and in oil exploration in (Bantiu) and said this aimed at the destruction of Sudan's projects for economic development. Again, Madani went on to say hostile elements have been dragged to Ethiopia to form a hostile front on her territory and claimed they are refugees.

He told the diplomats in all that Sudan held to the agonizing attitude of self-restraint to avoid repercussions on the area.

This was quickly followed by a major attack, well-prepared, well-armed and well-organized in collaboration with Ethiopia and Libya to strike a blow against our national unity and internal stability.

The minister told the African envoys that the People's Armed Forces were alerted to do their national duty to defend Sudanese land and people. They will continue to do so until all hostilities against our country come to a complete stop, Madani said.

Concluding his statement to the envoys, the minister reiterated Sudan's principle of non-interference in others internal affairs, nor to infringe on our sovereignty.

Students Protest Libyan-Ethiopian 'Conspiracy'

JN211113 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1030 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] Khartoum, 21 Nov (SUNA) — Thousands of students from universities and other schools staged a large demonstration in Khartoum yesterday. They burned the Ethiopian and Libyan flags while chanting slogans denouncing the conspiracy against Sudan's unity. They also loudly condemned the cowards and agents. Muhammad Khulaji Salihin, minister of national guidance and information, addressed the demonstration, stressing that although the conspiracy was enormous, the Armed Forces had managed to foil it within 72 hours. He added that the brave Armed Forces are currently in full control of the situation.

The preparatory committee of the Sudanese Students Federation, which organized this mass rally, affirmed in a memorandum to Salihin that the role of Libya and Ethiopia, assisted by the renegades, in devising acts of aggression against Sudan is condemned by every rational person. In their memorandum, the students warned the Libyan and Ethiopian regimes against attacking Sudan, and stated that southern Sudan is an indivisible part of the country. They also promised that the Sudanese people will make the highest sacrifices should any part of Sudan be partitioned. They expressed pride in the victories achieved by the People's Armed Forces and proclaimed that Sudanese students will not hesitate to join these forces in order to oppose any treacherous aggressor.

Sudanese Army Ready to Confront 'Traitors'

JN191128 Khartoum SUNA in English 0910 GMT 19 Nov 83

[Text] Khartoum, Nov. 19 (SUNA) — The People's Armed Forces Deputy Commander General 'Abd ar-Rahman Suwar adh-Dhab sent a message to President Numayri assuring the People's Armed Forces' readiness to confront the traitors.

The People's Armed Forces are ready to protect the country and its people against the enemies of the national unity, the message read.

The forces have pledged to defend the May revolution which worked for development and achieved the national unity between northern and southern Sudan. This unity is a fearful nightmare for the traitors, mercenaries and the agents of the enemy, the message added.

People's Assembly on Enemy 'Conspiracy'

JN211912 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1745 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] Khartoum, 21 Nov (SUNA) — The People's Assembly has stressed that the recent series of events which our country has had to face are but a continuation of the conspiracy whose tools are the oppressive and tyrannical regimes of Ethiopia and Libya. Together they are seeking to implement the USSR's strategy in the region, which is contained in the documents of the Aden summit, attended by the USSR, Ethiopia, Libya, and the PDRY.

These statements were part of a resolution issued today by the People's Assembly concerning Ethiopian-Libyan aggression against our southeastern borders. The resolution also noted that weak souls and outlaws have been exploited under this plan.

The statement says that the People's Assembly repeats its condemnation of the foreign forces which — through various means — are attempting to hamper both our economic and social development and the national upsurge in faith and civilization.

The People's Assembly reaffirmed what President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri has declared time and time again: Internal differences must not be the prelude to any foreign interference and those who are controlled by foreign countries while claiming to be members of the opposition are only agents and mercenaries.

The statement issued by the People's Assembly praises the role which the Sudanese Armed Forces have played in confronting the conspiracy and freeing the hostages who had been kidnapped by the outlaws.

The statement adds that Sudan, which has exercised self-restraint and respected others for many years, will no longer be content to simply repulse aggression. The statement affirms that Sudan's patience is not hesitation, that its temperance is not weakness, that its territorial integrity is sacred, and that Sudan has the right to extirpate aggression.

The statement urges all competent bodies to cooperate with those fraternal and friendly countries that are concerned about the security and safety of this part of Africa in formulating a wider plan of strategy. This new program should provide for the security and safety of Central and East Africa — including the Red Sea and Africa's coasts along the Indian Ocean — and contribute to the acheivement of stability on the continent while exposing enemy schemes and foreign intervention in Africa.

The statement also calls for intensified diplomatic and popular contacts through various channels to explain the aggression and conspiracies to which Sudan is being subjected by foreign countries. It also appeals to the peoples and countries of the world, as well as to regional and international organizations, to sharply criticize such conspiracies.

ETHIOPIA

Government Refutes Charges of Troops Near Sudan

EA211855 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] Socialist Ethiopia today announced that it finds the baseless and false allegations by Sudan that it is amassing troops and heavy weapons on its common border with Sudan as an act of provocation.

A spokesman for the Foreign Ministry of Socialist Ethiopia fully refuted these allegations concocted by the Government of Sudan and to which it has given great publicity, saying it is all aimed at deceiving its own people about the views on the unstable situation in the country created by the government. It added that the world fully understands that the Sudanese leadership is facing a worsening economic situation, a political crisis, and various social problems.

The spokesman pointed out that the Sudanese Government is trying to use the baseless allegations against Ethiopia in an attempt to cover up the problem it has created, adding that the Sudanese leadership has now brought into the open unhealthy actions it has covertly been carrying out against Ethiopia for many years.

The spokesman added that the Sudanese leadership's present efforts to acquire outside military aid is aimed at stifling people's protests against the government's lack of concern for equality, freedom, and justice. Another aim is to prepare preconditions for regional instability by creating conflicts and mistrust among countries.

The spokesman said that Socialist Ethiopia considers such continuous propaganda as being aimed at covering up the (?apprehension) caused by the cold war and added that it is also aimed at creating resentment among the brotherly people of these two countries which have long-standing satisfactory relations. It added that the recent demonstration in Khartoum organized by the Sudanese Government was aimed at creating hatred among the brotherly peoples of the two countries and tainting the understanding and friendly atmosphere between the two countries.

The spokesman made it clear that Socialist Ethiopia has no desire to weaken Sudan's unity and explained Ethiopia's firm stand on the well-being and prosperity of the peoples of Africa, and especially its desire to promote good-neighborliness. The spokesman went on to state that it is wrong for Sudan to use Ethiopia as an excuse for the problems it is facing and to try to blame countries which have strong mutual relations with Ethiopia whenever it is faced with problems in the country.

The spokesman called on the Sudanese people and others to stop the Sudanese Government from additional provocative action and added that Socialist Ethiopia asks that the principles of respect for national dignity, territorial integrity, and inviolability of borders be strictly adhered to.

Mengistu Receives Visiting DPRK Delegation

EA220028 Addis Ababa in English to Neighboring Countries 1530 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam today received and held talks with the visting high-level delegation of the People's Democratic Republic of Korea, DPRK. Comrade Chairman Mengistu met at his COPWE Central Committee office the delegation headed by Comrade Kong Chin-tae, alternate Politburo member of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and vice premier of the Administrative Council of the DPRK. During its stay in the country the DPRK delegation will exchange views with Ethiopian officials on ways of strengthening economic cooperation between the two countries on the basis of agreements reached earlier.

Voice of Broad Masses Reports EPLF Operations

EA191831 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Tigrinya 0400 GMT 19 Nov 83

[Text] On 16 November Eritrean People's Liberation Front [EPLF] units carried out a mortar attack on the enemy army camp in Dekemhare. The 1 and 1/2 hour bombardment resulted in three buildings and a large amount of enemy property in the camp destroyed and enemy soldiers killed or wounded. On the same day units of our people's army attacked an enemy unit moving (?toward) the outskirts of Adi Keyih to harrass people, killing three soldiers and capturing five [words indistinct] and two Kalashinkovs.

Voice of Western Somalia Reports WSLF Attack

EA201425 (Clandestine) Voice of Western Somalia and Abo Liberation Front in Somali to Western Somalia 1200 GMT 19 Nov 83

[Text] The gallant fighters of the Western Somali Liberation Front [WSLF] launched a surprise attack on the black colonialist Abyssinian forces stationed at Gode on 15 November. In the attack the intrepid WSLF fighters killed 55 black colonialist Abyssinian soldiers and wounded many others. The WSLF fighters destroyed one military vehicle type [word indistinct] and all its contents. The gallant WSLF fighters lost four martyrs and seven others wounded. In the engagement the WSLF fighters destroyed all the military hardware and other stores at the black colonialist Abyssinian forces at the base.

Voice of Tigre Revolution on TPLF Clashes

EA201948 (Clandestine) Voice of Tigre Revolution in Amharic to Ethiopia 1315 GMT 20 Nov 83

[Text] On 16 November the heroic forces of the Tigre People's Liberation Front [TPLF] clashes (?at Zobel) with Dergue soldiers who were moving out of Alamat'a in a bid to recapture vehicles captured in Welo Kitk Hager region. Some 140 Dergue soldiers were killed and another 170 wounded. Captured were 3 soldiers, 16 Kalashinkov rifles, [words indistinct]. In another clash with Dergue soldiers who were moving from Mek'ele to Hagere Selam on 11 November 28 soldiers were killed and [number indistinct] wounded.

SOMALIA

SNM Central Committee Appoints New Executive

EA220023 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] The third Somali National Movement [SNM] Central Committee meeting which convened at one of the SNM bases on 10 November ended on 16 November. The third SNM meeting which began and concluded in a warm and spirited atmosphere reached unanimous agreement on its agenda. Various in-depth discussions took place on the political and military liberation and salvation struggle in Somalia against the spiteful regime of dictator Barre. The SNM's third Central Committee meeting adopted several concrete resolutions including a general change in the SNM's general command. The former 11-man Executive Committee was recalled with a decision for the committee to include only five men. The meeting named the SNM chairman as Colonel (Abd al-Qadir Kosar Abdi), the deputy chairman as (Adan Shineh Muhammad). The secretary general of SNM was named as (Muhammad Kahin Ahmad). The meeting also named two secretaries, namely, (Abdi Salan Uthman Dini), popularly called Gorgor [vulture], and (Hasan Ise Jama). These are the five members of the new Executive Committee. The third meeting also named five directors whose responsibilities will be detailed later.

The meeting also fully debated the constitution and political system put forward during the third SNM conference held in July this year, the guidelines of this conference being the Islamic Shari'a. These guidelines were fully approved by the third SNM Central Committee meeting. The meeting also accepted the guiding principles of the SNM. The meeting also resolved that the fourth SNM conference will be held on 17 April 1984. The third SNM Central Committee meeting was [word indistinct] by the movement's former chairman, (Yusuf Ali Shaykh Madar). (Yusuf Ali Shaykh Madar) talked in detail about the activities of the former command of the movement since the third conference of the movement and, in general, the armed struggle of the forces of opposition to the dictatorial regime of Barre.

At the end of the meeting, the former SNM chairman thanked and congratulated the new chairman, (Abd al-Qadir Kosar Abdi), on his new appointment and responsibilities. He prayed for him to carry out these heavy responsibilities with ease. The new chairman in turn praised the former chairman for his vanguard position in leading the SNM since he took over the leadership.

Radio Halgan: Fighting in Central Regions Continues

EA181441 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 17 Nov 83

[Text] Units of the 9th General Aynanshe Division of the Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia, DFSS, wing of the Somali opposition forces blew up and destroyed a military vehicle of the loyalist forces of the Barre regime. The action was carried out between Debad and Ghelinsor in the central area of the country. It is reported that some soldiers were wounded, including two senior officers. Reports reading us from the 9th General Aynanshe Division say that intermittent fighting continues between the DFSS wing fighters and the loyalist Barre regime forces in the central regions of Somalia.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Trial of MLPC Members for Coup Attempt Opens

AB220640 Paris AFP in English 0412 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] Bangui, Nov 22 (AFP) — The trial of four Politburo members of the banned Central Africans People's Liberation Movement (MLPC) in connection with a failed coup in March last year opened here on Monday. The hearing in a special court was attended by a large number of members of the public.

Hugues Dobozendi, Dieudonne Padounmji-Yadjoua, Theodore Bagayombo and Jean Mette-Yapende are accused of inciting people in the capital's working-class districts to erect barricades in the streets after former General Francois Bozize broadcast an unsuccessful call to revolt.

MLPC leader Ange Patasse, a former premier, took refuge in the French Embassy when the uprising failed to take hold. He was sent into exile in Togo in a deal between Paris and the military regime here, which took power in the Central African Republic in September 1981, forcing President David Dacko to stand down.

In evidence yesterday, Mr Bagayombo caused surprise by claiming he was not a Politburo member. He said he considered himself to be just an influential party militant. Mr Bagayombo, known as a spokesman for Mr Patasse, was forestry waters minister under the regime of ousted ex-Emperor Bokassa. Mr Dobozendi was finance minister in the same government. Mr Padoundji-Yadjoua held the portfolios of finance and then posts and telecommunications in the subsequent Dacko cabinet.

CHAD

OAU Delegation Arrives in Ndjamena for Talks

AB220650 Paris AFP in English 0353 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] Ndjamena, Nov 22 (AFP) — An Organisation of African Unity (OAU) delegation arrived here Monday on the second leg of a trip aimed at arranging national reconciliation talks among Chad's opposing factions. Talks were slated during the team's 24-hour stay with Foreign Minister Idriss Miskine last night and President Hissein Habre today.

Delegation leader Goshu Wolde, Ethiopia's foreign minister, told the press that Chad's problems were "delicate and not easy," so he could not say too much at this stage. But current OAU Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam, the Ethiopian leader, had "constructive" exchanges of views with the African and foreign leaders on ways of getting a peaceful and lasting settlement of the Chadian crisis, Lieutenant Colonel Wolde said.

The delegation started its mission in Paris and is to visit Libya and Nigeria.

ZAIRE

Mobutu Hosts Banquet for Visiting Spanish King

AB210950 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1730 GMT 20 Nov 83

[Text] Kinshasa, 19 Nov (AZAP) — MPR-founding chairman Mobutu Sese Seko has conferred on King Juan Carlos and Queen Sofia of Spain the Grand Ribbon of the National Order of the Leopard. In turn, the Spanish sovereign has conferred on the MPR leader the Grand Ribbon of the Order of Isabel, the Catholic, while Mama Bobi Ladawa has received the [word indistinct] of the cross of the same order. This exchange of decorations took place at a banquet which the presidential couple hosted on Saturday evening at the Palais du Peuple in honor of the royal couple who began a 4-day official visit to Zaire today.

In their addresses on this occasion, the two heads of state underlined their desire to see their countries resolutely engage in a multiform cooperation considering the landmarks already established as well as the imminent signing of agreements on general cooperation in the fields of economy, industry, science and technology, social affairs, and public health.

In this regard, the president of the republic reaffirmed Zaire's desire to promote with all countries of the world a policy of cooperation based on trust and respect for the fundamental policies of all partners. "We Zairians are indeed first of all Africans and nonaligned, but we are also citizens of the world, a world where interdependence, dialogue, and solidarity prevail."

Concerning dialogue and solidarity, both King Juan Carlos and Marshal Mobutu regretted that these two essential elements are no longer understood and used in this world of crisis, which is confronted with diverse tensions among the nations. In this connection, they expressed their concern about the renewed recourse to strength in international relations and the lack of solidarity in relations between industrial and poor countries while the poor countries alone feel the pains of the world economic crisis. In the same connection, they condemned the policy of apartheid in South Africa and expressed the hope to see the international community work more determinedly for Namibian independence.

Here are the full texts of the speeches by the two heads of state.

The Zairian president:

"On behalf of the people of Zaire, grouped within our national party, the MPR, and on my own behalf, I wish your majesties and the delegation accompanying you a very warm welcome to this hospitable African country of Zaire. On receiving you at this table this evening, I hope that your stay in Zaire will be as [word indistinct] as possible and that it will contribute to further strengthening the multifaceted ties of cooperation that exist between our two countries.

"The militants of the MPR laud in your majesty not only the dignified descendant of an important line of an empire on which the sun has never set, not only the head of state whose glorious history and secular radiance greatly contributed to the heritage of world civilization, and not only the sovereign of a friendly country, but a great statesman whose political courage and historial vision inspire admiration and respect. And through you, we salute the Spanish people, to whom we reiterate our expression of deep friendship. Your visit makes us that much happier because it is the first official visit by the king of Spain.

"Your highness, your country is not unknown to the people of Zaire. Just after our independence when our country was facing serious internal disturbances, the heroic image of some of your compatriots who gave the best of themselves will always remain engraved in our memories. I am thinking about the numerous Spanish missionaries who worked in Zaire mainly for the promotion of the social, educational, and public health sectors: In short, they were apostles in the true sense of the word.

"On the other hand, in observing the situation in your own country, one must acknowledge that since your accession to the throne, Spain is really progressing. I will not even bring up the recent poignant historical events regarding the democratization process in Spain, which revealed to Europe and the world the great qualities of your majesty to such an extent that the present Spanish political system is due to the political courage of its sovereign.

"To a certain extent, we are surprised by the similarities between Zaire and Spain because in both cases, there has been a break with the past and a search for a new order and a new equilibrium which corresponds to new realities. That is why we can hope that Spanish-Zairian cooperation has good prospects. Already a number of draft agreements have been discussed by experts pending their signature by the concerned authorities. These mainly include: a general cooperation agreement, an economic and industrial cooperation agreement, a technical, scientific and social cooperation agreement, and finally, a cooperation agreement in the health sector. Perhaps we will envisage future contacts in the tourism sector, where according to all observers Spain is highly qualified. In initiating such agreements, we are giving new proof of the excellent relations between our two countries, and this visit consolidates them and is their culminating point.

"Zaire's policy has always been to live peacefully with its neighbors and to promote honest cooperation with all countries of the world regardless of their political and economic systems, provided these partners respect Zaire's fundamental policies. We Zairians are certainly first and foremost African and nonaligned, but we are also citizens of the world, a world where interdependence, dialogue, and solidarity prevail. We are impelled to be such by our location at the heart of the African Continent, and by our economic and human potential, as well as by our development imperatives.

"In order to remain credible in the eyes of its external partners and to speed up its development process, Zaire recently adopted strong measures aimed at redressing its economic, financial, and monetary situation. We have opted for rigorous and clear management. We have consolidated the system of free enterprise which couples harmonious intervention by the government in certain sectors of national activity with private initiative, in such a way as to promote the full development of all sections of society. [Passage indistinct]

GUINEA

12th Democratic Party Congress Concludes

Sekou Toure Reelected Leader

AB211100 Conakry Domestic Service in French 0645 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Excerpt] The 12th National Congress of the Guinean Democratic Party, which opened on 16 November, has reached its final stage. The plenary session held yesterday morning examined and adopted the documents submitted to the congress. During the afternoon session, the participants elected the party's secretary general.

Once again, the congress renewed its full confidence in the man of the people — the one who has devoted his life to the cause of his people and the peoples of Africa, the one who was able to establish a dignified means of cooperation among the peoples of the entire world, the father of the Guinean nation — Comrade Ahmed Sekou Toure. In fact, the congress has reelected Comrade Ahmed Sekou Toure as the party's secretary general for another term of office.

Resolution Issued

AB211602 Paris AFP in French 1315 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] Dakar, 21 Nov (AFP) — In a resolution adopted at the close of the 12th Congress of the Guinean Democratic Party, that organization expressed its "preoccupation" concerning both the continuing conflict in Chad and the "fratricidal conflict in the Western Sahara." The resolution, broadcast by Radio Conakry, was monitored in Dakar.

On the subject of Chad, the document notes that "only through respect for the territorial integrity, sovereignty, and national unity of that country, and a halt to interference in its internal affairs can there be efficient progress toward a lasting peace there."

Regarding Western Sahara, the congress called upon the Guinean party to "do everything possible within the framework of the OAU and — by relying on the pertinent resolutions adopted by that pan-African organization — find a just and lasting solution to this problem."

It is worth noting that the OAU will hold its 20th summit, scheduled for June 1984, in Guinea.

The resolution also condemned "South Africa's acts of aggression against the frontline states" and reaffirmed "the party's firm and resolute support for the people of Namibia and South Africa, as well as for SWAPO and the ANC."

IVORY COAST

FRG's Carstens Arrives for Official Visit

AB212200 Abidjan Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Excerpt] Karl Carstens, president of the Federal Republic of Germany, and his wife arrived on schedule today at 1600 for a 4-day official visit to our country. President Carstens was welcomed upon arrival at Port-Bouet International Airport by President Houphouet-Boigny himself.

LIBERIA

Doe Statement on Plot To 'Overthrow' Government

AB212100 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Statement by Liberian Head of State Samuel Doe, issued on 21 November in Monrovia — recorded]

[Text] Mr Vice Head of State, the Deputy Vice Head of State, Mr Speaker, Mr Secretary General, and members of the council here present, advisers, and fellow citizens: It is my duty as head of state of Liberia and chairman of the People's Redemption Council [PRC] to inform you of a recent development threatening the security of the state.

On November 14, 1983, Captain Johny B. Herring of the Armed Forces of Liberia reported to the Government of Liberia that the [word indistinct] officials of government and citizens were engaged in activities designed to subvert and overthrow the government of the PRC: Mr (Mohamed Wonpiyeh), Major Moses Duopo, PRC adviser Colonel John Nuah, [word indistinct] Commander (E.L. Bawa), Lieutenant Colonal Thomas T. Freeman, John (Tima Kpenke), (Lord Tueh), and (Alexander Wales), all members of Eya Barracks. Chief (Podots) named Major Kolonko Luo, the deputy minister of agriculture, Mr Harry Yuon, managing director of the Liberian Electricity Coporation, and Mr (Wiah Dolly), managing director of Parker Paints Industry, (?wife Elwekor), and Edward (Workoyah), former radio manager of ELBC [Radio Liberia], as participants in the plan.

During investigations, it was discovered that certain aspects of Captain Herring's information corroborated with another source. Herring said that he was informed that a foreign mission accredited here in Monrovia was aware of the impending plot and has thereby promised to give the operation its support by providing money, arms, and drugs. In addition to Herring's information, another source asserted that PRC adviser Moses Duopo solicited and has received funds to help carry out the insurrection. In view of the gravity of the information, the Government of Liberia effected a move to probe into the matter, thereby resulting in the arrest of some of the above mentioned personalities. Some of the accused have already been arrested and are undergoing investigations that are designed to authenticate the infor mation. We, therefore, find it proper and extremely necessary to apprise the public of the information and status of the matter so as to remove doubts and fears from the minds of the public about what is happening.

Our government will ensure that those accused are given the due process of law.

While investigations have been underway in Monrovia with regard to this alleged plot, we have received a confirmed report that a group of armed elements opened fire on unarmed people, killing more than five persons, including children, in Yekepa Nimba County. Accordingly, a number of troops are being dispatched to the scene to restore law and order. As you are aware, the minister of defense has already given a detailed press conference on the situation in Yekepa. The situation is under control. We ask all of our people to remain calm and go about their daily activities. I thank you very much.

Soviet Envoy Declared Persona Non Grata

NC221540 Paris AFP in English 1526 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] Monrovia, Nov 22 (AFP) — The Government of Liberia has declared as personae non gratae Soviet Ambassador Anatoliy Ulanov and Ghanaian Charge d'Affaires Peter Sackey for "activities incompatible with their diplomatic status," the Foreign Ministry said here today.

Deputy Foreign Minister General Rudolf Kolaco said in a statement to the press that the two diplomats have been given 48 hours to leave the country. He said the action to expel the diplomats was taken in order to "preserve the cordial relations subsisting between Liberia and the two countries."

No other details were given, but political observers here believed the move was connected with a plot to overthrow the ruling military council here which was disclosed yesterday by Head of State Samuel Doe.

In his radio broadcast Mr Doe said a foreign mission here was aware of the plot and had promised financial aid, arms and drugs to the alleged plotters.

Mr Doe named 12 army officers and civilians as being behind the plot.

5 Killed in Nimba; Troops 'Dispatched'

AB212120 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1600 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] Defense Minister Gray D. Allison has announced in Monrovia that five persons have been killed by an unidentified gunman in Nimba County. Speaking at a special press conference called at the Defense Ministry in Monrovia today, Minister Allison said the ministry has dispatched troops to Yekepa to restore law and order. Mr Allison said among those killed were deputy director of the plant protection force in Nimba County, Mr Edwin Aldrige. One of the sons of the director of the force, Mr Charles Jehu, was also said to have been killed. Minister Allison said four employees of the plant protection force were killed and attempts are being made to identify the killers, who were using two taxi cabs. He gave license numbers of the taxis as 3395 and 2395.

The defense minister said the incident took place earlier this morning when a gunman burst into the room of Mr Jehu, who is presently out of the country, and shot and killed his son and seriously wounded another son and the watchman. The gunman later moved to the plant protection force area and started shooting and killing others. A total of five persons are reported to have been wounded.

NIGER

OIC's Chatti Comments on Sahel Aid, Cyprus

AB211030 Paris AFP in English 1019 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] Niamey, Nov 21 (AFP) — Islamic countries have promised 180 million dollars in aid to the drought-stricken Sahel countries of West Africa, Islamic Conference Organisation Secretary-General Habib Chatti said here.

Of this aid, 15 percent had already been distributed in the form of food, and the rest would be spent on projects to bring water to local communities, in liasion with the eight-member Inter-State Committee on Drought Control in the Sahel.

Mr. Chatti said that the question of continuing the Islamic Sahel Aid Committee, set up at the third Islamic summit in January 1981, would no doubt be raised at the fourth summit to be held in Casablanca, Morocco, on January 15 next year.

The problem of Cyprus, where the Turkish northern part has declared unilateral independence, would also probably come up, Mr. Chatti said, adding, "It is not too late to reach a solution... which could be in a federal or confederal arrangement."

Mr. Chatti left here today for Mauritania, the last stage of a seven-nation West African tour to prepare for the Casablanca conference.

NIGERIA

Shagari, Delegation Leave for New Delhi Summit

AB220900 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] President Shehu Shagari has left Lagos for New Delhi, India, to attend the summit conference of heads of state and government of the Commonwealth. The president is being accompanied by two ministers as well as a special adviser on political affairs and the secretary to the Federal Government.

Two major issues will feature prominently at the summit which opens tomorrow. They are the protracted Namibian independence and the North-South dialogue on the formulation of the new world economic order. The American intervention in Grenada and the situation in Cyprus are also expected to be extensively discussed. Nigeria is among African member nations of the Commonwealth which strongly opposed any linkage of the presence of Cuban troops in Angola with the independence of Namibia.

At the end of the Commonwealth summit, President Shehu Shagari will pay a brief visit to Saudi Arabia to perform the lesser hajj. He will return to Lagos on the first of next month.

Shagari Assigns Portfolios to Ministers

AB212215 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] The remaining six ministerial nominees who were confirmed by the Senate yesterday have been sworn in and assigned portfolios by President Shehu Shagari. They include Chief Chukwuemeka Anyaoku, from Anambra State, minister of external affairs; Alhaji Mohamed Alhaji, Bauchi State, minister for commerce; and Chief Ralp Uwechue, from Bendel State, minister of health. Others are Dr Joseph Sowho from Bendel State, third minister in the Ministry of External Affairs; Alhaji Ali Baba, Gongola State, minister of employment, labor, and productivity; and Dr Bennet Birabi from Rivers State, minister of youth and sports.

In a brief address, President Shagari said the swearing in of the six ministers now provided him with a full Cabinet and satisfied the constitutional requirement that there should be at least one minister from each state of the federation.

He told the ministers that like their colleagues who were sworn in earlier, he selected them because of his belief that they would faithfully and loyally assist the executive in fulfilling its obligations to the nation. The president said the administration was determined to build a unified, peaceful, and stable nation that would be self-reliant in food production and provide housing and qualitative education for its people. He stressed the need for the ministers to be disciplined and show prudence, probity, and public accountability. President Shagari also asked them to cooperate with their colleagues and other public servants and put the interest of the nation above all other considerations.

UPPER VOLTA

Politicians' Declaration Cause for 'Suspicion'

AB211635 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] Last weekend, Head of State Thomas Sankara found a declaration among his many pieces of mail. The declaration was not extraordinary in any way, but it did arouse interest. In fact, this declaration, dated 18 November, was drawn up by some former politicians of questionable character who have been arrested by the security forces. It was signed by five men: Maurice Yameogo, Jean-Baptiste Ouedraogo, Gerard Kango Ouedraogo, Joseph Konombo, and Joseph Ouedraogo. Why did they send this declaration? Probably because they believe a good deal of circumstantial evidence will be brought up against them when the time comes for their meeting with the people.

For many observers, this declaration will raise a certain number of questions, including the following: Why did they wait until now to issue the declaration? Did these politicians of questionable character need more than 3 months to examine their consciences? How sincere was this examination of conscience, if indeed there was any? Has the call made by Thomas Sankara, comrade chairman of the National Council of the Revolution, CNR, for the defense of the revolutionary process launched in our country been heard at last by these men, who had formerly resolved to impede its progress? In any case, the signatories of the declaration claim that they wish to take part in the revolution and do not wish to be excluded from the process of national construction work launched on 4 August. Is this a reactionary trick or true repentance? One may certainly have doubts. Why did they write this declaration only after their arrest? Is this an attempt to bargain for their release? Would they later disown this document by claiming that it had been written under duress? Some light must be shed on this matter.

In any case, this declaration comes after a number of events which involve a number of people. It will be recalled that at the beginning of the revolution, the head of state, Comrade Thomas Sankara, called upon all Upper Voltans to support the CNR. At that time, all those who felt guilty of something were asked to examine their consciences without delay and to resolutely join the revolution, or at least refrain from impeding the revolutionary process begun in Upper Volta. This open door policy is the very foundation of the August revolution's peaceful nature. The goal of the process is to transform the people of Upper Volta into seven million revolutionaries determined to free themselves from all forms of tutelage and to take over control of their own destiny. As it turned out, some irresponsible politicians — fiercely opposed to the people's interests — responded by rejecting this offer. These irresponsible politicians include the five persons who now want to join the revolution through this declaration.

How did they arrive at this decision? The vain attempts and the vigilance of those who appealed to these politicians to adopt a somewhat more realistic attitude certainly had influenced their attitude of conciliation and repentance. The Upper Voltan people remember the solemn warning issued on 16 August by CNR Chairman Thomas Sankara to these people, who practice politics for the sake of politics. The continued reactionary activities of these individuals compelled the Upper Voltan authorities to take disciplinary measures against them on 11 October. However, there was some stubborness on the part of these men, who were determined to defy the CNR to the end. According to the disquieting report made to the Upper Voltan people on 28 October by Comrade President Thomas Sankara, the CNR and the revolutionary government had irrefutable proof of an imminent attack on our revolution involving mercenaries recruited by a handful of revanchist politicians. The organizers of this effort were supporters of earlier reactionary regimes in Upper Volta, and were powerfully assisted by their imperialist allies. As someone has said, facts are stubborn things. Money was being taken out of Upper Volta and withdrawn from bank accounts in Europe for the purpose of recruiting mercenaries and buying arms in order to plunge Upper Volta into bloodshed. Contacts were being made with certain heads of state and a number of businessmen to finance the recruiting of mercenaries. The evidence seems to overwhelm our former politicians.

Now, with this declaration, the authors are all but attempting to wipe out these acts and dissociate themselves from any campaign to recruit mercenaries abroad. But the facts remain true for those who are paying close attention to the political development of Upper Volta.

Our politicians of questionable character have begun a race against time. No one knows why. While the country is falling into the darkest misery, for which they are responsible, these politicians are trying to make the people forget that they preferred to recruit mercenaries and buy arms rather than place this fabulous sum of money at the service of their country's development. Should their declaration of support for the revolution not begin by placing this money at the service of the country's development? This was not the case. Where then is the sincerity of this declaration? Support for the revolution should not be restricted to words. It must be verified in daily practice. Whatever the case may be, should this declaration prove to be sincere, the CNR and its chairman can only rejoice. Consequently, the signatories will be asked, as the revolution demands, to make their self-criticism with the greatest dignity. But is the CNR prepared to allow itself to be deceived and fall into some sort of sentimentality?

The determination of both the CNR and the people cannot tolerate this. Apart from the easy-going style of this declaration — which is inspired by its authors' fear of being sentenced rather than any sincere support for the revolution — the people are waiting for a report no matter the desire to help them in their struggle [as heard]. And if those who wrote this declaration have the vile intention of deceiving us through appeals for leniency, the people will judge without erasing from their memory 23 years of martyrdom, autocracy, squandering of funds, irresponsibility, and lack of awareness.

This means that the easy-going conversion of our politicians of questionable character cannot fail to arouse suspicion despite their ardent wish to join the people in the interest of a prosperous and worthy Upper Volta.

ANGOLA

AFP: Dos Santos Rules out Dialogue With UNITA

AB220700 Paris AFP in English 0408 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] Paris, Nov 22 (AFP) — Dialogue with the rebel movement UNITA is utterly out of the question, Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos said in an interview to be published here in the December issue of the magazine *AFRIQUE-ASIE*. He said UNITA (Union for the Total Independence of Angola) had been an instrument of Portuguese colonialism in the past and was now being used by South Africa.

"There is no political or legal reason for any dialogue whatsoever with UNITA", Mr dos Santos affirmed. He said his ruling party "cannot hold discussions with the agents of a South African regime which practices the apartheid in whose name more than 20 million blacks are oppressed." Angolan Government forces were going to put UNITA gangs out of action in all affected regions, he said when asked about the military situation.

On links with Cuba, Mr dos Santos said it was a mistake to claim they were confined to military help. Cuban assistance had always been prominent in other sectors too, especially education and reconstruction, he said.

MPLA Delegation Leaves for Maputo Talks

MB220855 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] Comrade Afonso van Dunem Mbinda, MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee secretary, left for the Mozambique capital Maputo last evening at the head of a party delegation. The visit by Comrade Afonso van Dunem Mbinda is one of the periodic contacts between the MPLA-Labor Party and the Frelimo Party to strengthen ties of friendship and solidarity between the two parties.

FAPLA 8-12 November Operations Reported

MB200619 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 19 Nov 83

[Text] The People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA] have recently carried out operations against the UNITA counterrevolutionaries in Cuanza Sul, Benguela, and Huila Provinces resulting in the death of 34 bandits. According to sources in the Ministry of Defense quoted by ANGOP, that number of casualties refers only to operations carried out 8-12 November, during which FAPLA forces also captured five bandits and countless items of war materiel and military equipment.

On 8 November FAPLA combatants killed 15 counterrevolutionaries and captured a number of weapons of South African manufacture 140 km from Cariango in Cuanza Sul Province. On the following day in the same area four more UNITA bandits were killed and four others captured. The Angolan Armed Forces also captured an assortment of materiel and military equipment. In Benguela Province 30 km from Balombo FAPLA forces killed five enemy members. In Huila Province 1 counterrevolutionary was killed and 10 civilians who had been held under detention by the puppets were released. In Moxico a UNITA bandit group has been presented to the residents of the city of Luena after their capture in the vicinity of that city. The ceremony was held 8 days ago when all our people were celebrating yet another anniversary of the proclamation of national independence.

FAPLA Actions in Cuanza Sul

MB210850 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0700 GMT 20 Nov 83

[Text] A new climate of tranquillity now prevails in various parts of Cuanza Sul Province as a result of the decisive actions by the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA] against UNITA bandits. The results of these FAPLA actions can be seen in [word indistinct] and Uaco Cungo municipality, the main agricultural zone in the province. Namibe and Cuando Cubango Provinces, although not in complete tranquillity, have also started to blossom new life with the repairing of bridges blown up following joint operations by the Pretoria army and UNITA. At present, bridges over the Luquenha and Chipando Rivers are being repaired and concrete bridges are being built. There are also projects to build some highways in the south of the country with the assistance of Soviet technicians.

FAPLA Officers Begin Course in Huambo 21 Nov

MB220938 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] The eighth high course for officers of the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA] began in Huambo yesterday. About 50 officers from all our country's regions are attending the 8-month course. Major (Hernando da Cruz Neto), commander of the fourth political-military region, presided over the opening session of the course at the High Officers' School on behalf of Lieutenant Colonel Joao Ernesto dos Santos Liberdade, chairman of that region's military council. Maj (Hernando Neto) underlined the importance of the ceremony in the context of the present political-military situation and also spoke about the difficult circumstances under which the course was being held, with our country the victim of continued acts of aggression by the racist Pretoria regime. He also underlined the need for all attending the course to take it seriously, for they are the future instructors of our Army, which is presently playing a fundamental role in defending the fatherland. FAPLA officers and Soviet military advisers were present at the meeting.

UNITA Predicts Success of Luanda, Uige Campaign

MB211103 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Angola 0430 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Station commentary — monitored in progress]

[Text] In every portion of Angola's territory which they occupy, the Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FALA], which are fully prepared to fight against the enemy and to mobilize the people for mass action against the illegitimate government of the chieftains of the MPLA. Throughout history suffering has brought out in the Angolan man a firm desire to fight for liberty and his well-being. We are the most loyal perpetuators of the thoughts of (Jinga), (Ekwikwi), (Mutuyakivela), (Mwachiabwa), and (Mandumbi). We are the inheritors of the bravery and heroism of this fatherland, the wealth of tradition of resistance against every and any foreign domination.

The installation of Soviet imperialism in our country, with the Cuban mercenaries as the most direct instruments of repression, is nothing but a mere adventure doomed to total failure. Since the Soviet-Cuban invasion of our country 8 years ago, the resistant people of Angola, under the wise leadership of their beloved son, Comrade President Dr Savimbi, have triumphantly resisted the madness of Soviet-Cuban imperialism in their neocolonization efforts against our people. UNITA is a force destined to win. The general offensive carried out by UNITA forces, led directly by General Savimbi, the commander in chief of FALA, which began on 3 November 1983, has already resulted in large-scale operations in Bengo Province, legally called Luanda Province, and in Uige Province, with more Soviet war materiel being sent to Angola and another 5,000 Cuban mercenaries added to the 40,000 already in our country.

This shows how desperate the MPLA chieftains now are. The Cubans have demonstrated all their might since they invaded our country in January 1975 but have failed dismally in their attempt to annihilate the resistance of the Angolan people led by UNITA. The general offensive by UNITA forces begun on 3 November 1983 under the direct command of Gen Dr Jonas Malheiro Savimbi, the commander in chief of FALA, will achieve its objectives within the established period of 6 months. At present, UNITA forces are fighting in Luanda-Bengo and Uige Provinces. No one is deceived now by Cuban vanity and the exhibition of Soviet war materiel. FALA will undertake in full the program laid down by Gen Savimbi, its commander in chief. He will guide our action in this general offensive, which will result in a large-scale attack on Luanda-Bengo and Uige Provinces and on the north of the country, destroying all the enemy's infrastructures, capturing and eliminating the ring leaders of treason, the MPLA chieftains, and creating insecurity throughout the country.

The struggle triumphs. Only united around the comrade president of the party and the commander in chief of FALA, Gen Dr Jonas Malheiro Savimbi, shall we win.

LESOTHO

Foreign Minister Leaves for New Delhi Meeting

MB211350 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, The Honorable E.R. Sekhonyana, left yesterday for New Delhi, India where he will head the Lesotho delegation at the Commonwealth heads of state and government meeting which starts on Wednesday. He is accompanied by his senior permanent secretary and the secretary to the cabinet, Mr (J.R.L. Kotsokoane), who is deputy leader of the delegation. Other members of the delegation are Lesotho's high commissioner to the United Kingdom, Mr A.T. Sefako; the chief of protocol, Mr (V.M. Malele), the director of international organizations and agencies, Mr (K.T. Molapo), the secretary to the delegation, Mr (G.N. Lephotho), and the press secretary, Mr (M. Chele). The delegation is expected to return to Lesotho on 2 December.

MOZAMBIQUE

GDR Transport Delegation Arrives in Maputo

MB181444 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 18 Nov 83

[Text] Guenther Grossmann, the deputy minister and head of the political administration of the GDR Ministry of Transport [name and title as heard], arrived in Maputo this morning for talks with Mozambique authorities connected with the field of ports and railroads. The delegation is expected to study new ways of assigning GDR experts to the ports and railroads sector in Mozambique, as well as to examine the possibilities of dispatching more technicians to the railroad sector. The deputy minister is expected to be received by the Mozambique minister of ports, railroads, and shipping and he will visit the ports of Beira and Maputo, where a number of GDR experts are working. The GDR delegation from the Ministry of Transport was received on arrival in Maputo by Felix Amane, the political commissar of the ports and railroads sector.

Protocol on Cahora Bassa Dam Project Signed

MB200529 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 18 Nov 83

[Text] The protocol of the second session of the Mozambique-Portugal joint commission concerning the Cahora Bassa Dam was signed in Maputo today. The signing of the document marked the end of the talks which began on 14 November. During the talks the joint commission reviewed the decisions of the previous agreement, which was signed in January 1982, and analyzed the present situation and future prospects of the Cahora Bassa project. Both parties also called for a search for adequate solutions to matters they had dealt with.

Justice Minister Leaves for Cape Verde Meeting

MB200632 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 19 Nov 83

[Text] Justice Minister Colonel Oscar Monteiro leaves for the Republic of Cape Verde today where he will take part in the working sessions of the second meeting of the justice ministers of Angola, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, and Sao Tome and Principe. The meeting will be held in the city of Praia 22-26 November. The meeting follows a preparatory meeting which stressed the importance of this second meeting in the context of the relations of cooperation among the five countries, based on political unity as expressed by the respective parties and states and the policy outlined by the historic Maputo summit.

New Ambassador to United States Interviewed

MB190758 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 18 Nov 83

[Text] Mozambique and the United States have established a frank and open dialogue overcoming preconceptions that had existed on both sides, according to the newly appointed Mozambique ambassador in Washington, Mr Valeriano Ferrao. In an interview with the Portuguese news agency, NP, Mr Ferrao said his main task would be to explain Mozambique's aims in southern Africa. These, he said were peace, stability, and security for all. [Words indistinct] Mr Ferrao added that one of Mozambique's objectives was to denounce again and again the apartheid regime, with which no country in the world could agree, and to isolate it more and more. The United States could help bring about the end of apartheid, he said, by continuing the process of disinvestment and by encouraging companies to invest instead in countries that are genuinely democratic. Mr Ferrao said he thought the United States had already rejected Pretoria's argument that it was defending Western civilization in southern Africa. Asked whether the United States would be acting as a mediator between Mozambique and South Africa, the ambassador said that, as far as he was concerned, no mediator was needed. Dialogue between the two countries had begun, he said, and Mozambique had not ended it. The problem, Mr Ferrao said, is that Pretoria had replied to the dialogue with continued aggression and destabilization, and it was not worth talking just for the sake of talking. Mozambique had stated its aims for the region. South Africa must now do the same.

NAMIBIA

SWAPO Leader Condemns Multiparty Conference

MB220800 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] SWAPO President Sam Nujoma has condemned the plan by the racist Pretoria regime to hold a conference of Namibian internal parties. Speaking here in Luanda shortly before his departure for New Delhi, where he will take part in the Commonwealth heads of state and government summit, the SWAPO president said that such a maneuver is bound to fail, just as many others in the past have failed to convince Namibians and the international community of the existence of such parties. The SWAPO president added that nothing would come out of the so-called conference because the participants are puppets in the service of Pretoria who, instead of fighting against colonial domination, live in luxury at the expense of the precious blood of the Namibian people.

On the Commonwealth summit, the SWAPO president said that his organization would ask the summit to approve and support the recent UN Security Council Resolution 539 which mandates the UN secretary general to continue consultations with the parties involved in the Namibian conflict, South Africa and SWAPO, with the goal of signing a cease-fire agreement. He said that he would request countries like Britain to openly denounce attempts to link Namibian achievement of independence with the withdrawal of Cuban internationalist troops from Angola and to demand the withdrawal of South African occupationist troops from southern Angola, as well as to actively support the efforts undertaken by the UN secretary general in favor of Namibian independence.

Umtata: Police Confirm Arrest of SWAPO Member

MB191035 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1000 GMT 19 Nov 83

[Text] The detention of a SWAPO senior member has been confirmed. Windhoek security police say regional chairperson (Marka Hyasiko) was taken into custody yesterday. They say he is being held in terms of Security Proclamation AG-9.

SOUTH AFRICA

Police Intensify KGB Link Investigation

LD211602 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] The police in South Africa have intensified their investigations into allegations of a Cape Town link in a KGB network that was set up to obtain United States technology for the Soviet Union. Commercial branch detectives and security police have arrived in Cape Town to investigate the activities of several companies there and foreign companies with offices in Cape Town. The police have confirmed that two United States agents have arrived in Cape Town and that they will be working with the South African police during the investigation, which is expected to take some time. One of the people being investigated is a German millionaire who owns several large properties in the Cape. One report quotes him as being a Mr Richard Mueller. Reports from Washington have said that he was the coordinator of a smuggling network to supply United States equipment to the Soviet Union via his base in Cape Town. He is in Austria at the moment.

The equipment in question is said to be capable of controlling nuclear missiles and is regarded as the most sophisticated and military sensitive computers in the world. The computer equipment was discovered last week on board a ship at the transit port of Helsingborg at the entrance of the Baltic. It has been alleged that the computer system was one of two being smuggled to the Soviet Union via South Africa by the Soviet secret service. West German and American agents confiscated a similar system destined for the Soviet Union in Hamburg recently. In the meantime a report from Stockholm says security has been tightened at the Swedish port of Helsingborg from where it is suspected an attempt may be made to smuggle the system to the Soviet Union.

Finance Minister Comments on U.S. Senate Action

MB191102 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0930 GMT 19 Nov 83

[Text] The minister of finance, Mr Owen Horwood, says it is regrettable and ironical that the American Senate has passed a clause requiring U.S. Treasury approval of IMF loans to South Africa. Speaking to a group of about 70 U.S. investors, he said the information about the clause had just reached him and he understood it still needed the approval of the House of Representatives. The minister said this move in the U.S. Senate came precisely at a time when South Africa had itself done a great deal to remove constraints on both labor and capital mobility.

Spokesman Confirms Arrest of Suspected LLA Members

MB211657 Johanneburg Domestic Service in English 600 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] A spokesman for the Department of Foreign Affairs and Information has confirmed in Pretoria that eight people have been arrested on the border between South Africa and Lesotho and that initial investigations indicate that they may be members of the so-called Lesotho Liberation Army. The minister of foreign affairs and information, Mr Pik Botha, has said in a note to the Lesotho Government that Lesotho's earlier complaint had been investigated and had led to the arrests. Lesotho claimed that members of the Lesotho police were fired on from the South African side of the border. The South African police seized a quantity of firearms and ammunition.

Slabbert Addresses PFP Congress After Reelection

MB181352 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 18 Nov 83

[Text] At the national congress of the Progressive Federal Party [PFP] being held in Johannesburg, Dr Frederick van Zyl Slabbert has been reelected party leader. Speaking at the congress, Dr Slabbert said that the result of the recent referendum had been disappointing, but the PFP would overcome this. He said that the party had been in the difficult position of having to say no to the constitution but yes to reform. Now that the constitutional debate was over for the whites, the government had to go ahead with the implementation of the constitution. Dr Slabbert said he believed that the PFP should be constructive and positive in fighting for its principles.

UDF Urges Boycott of Cape Townships Elections

MB210742 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0600 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] The United Democratic Front [UDF] has pledged to strengthen its campaign for a boycott of this Thursday's community council elections in Cape townships. A resolution to this effect was unanimously adopted by about 500 UDF supporters at a rally in (Hanover) Park yesterday. The UDF regional president, veteran trade unionist Oscar Mpethe, appealed to all eligible voters to boycott the elections and to join the UDF. The meeting also resolved to resist the government's so-called Colored preference policy in the Western Cape. In another development, the UDF alleged police are intimidating their supporters. UDF officials say police set up road blocks in Cape townships and stopped and turned back buses and cars carrying people to the (Hanover) Park meeting yesterday, but police say they know nothing of the alleged action. Western Cape police liaison officer (Keraad van Royn) said last night he was not aware of any police road blocks or searches in the townships.

Inkatha Members Reportedly Disrupt Meeting

MB210730 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0600 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] Inkatha members are reported to have been involved in another incident of unrest in Natal. Two buses were damaged yesterday during a meeting at Hammersdale called by the Impumalanga Youth Organization. Carmen Ricard in Durban has details:

[Begin Ricard recording] The meeting had been called to remember people from Impumalanga and from other areas who were serving long sentences as political prisoners. Among the guests was Natal Release Mandela Committee [RMC] head and United Democratic Front [UDF] National President Archie Gumede. Gumede told me last night that toward the end of the meeting a bus from Lamontville had been set alight, the tires slashed, and windows broken. He said he believed 50 to 70 youth brigade supporters led by a woman in Inkatha uniform were responsible. About 20 of them, heavily armed, threatened to enter the hall to disrupt the meeting. They were angry over Lamontville residents' reluctance to be incorporated into kwaZulu, said Gumede. He added it was only the arrival of police on the scene which prevented bloodshed. He's to call an emergency meeting of the RMC and UDF this afternoon to consider the situation. [end recording]

Inkatha officials have not been available for comment on the incident. The Hammersdale violence comes less than a month after Inkatha supporters clashed with University of Zululand students, killing several students. And last week, fear of Inkatha intimidation forced a church group to transfer its conference from kwaZulu to Durban.

ANC's Tambo Evaluates International Support

EA181602 Addis Ababa Radio Freedom in English to South Africa 1930 GMT 17 Nov 83

[Excerpts] [Announcer] Radio Freedom's (Patrick Nkaya) asked Comrade President Oliver Tambo to evaluate the growth of international support for the ANC since the countrywide resurgence of political manifestations in South Africa in the second half of the seventies to the present.

[Begin recording] [Tambo] There can be no doubt whatsoever that international support for the ANC has grown immensely during the second half of the seventies and (?continues) up to now. But to evaluate this growth properly it may be necessary to take a look at the situation in the early part of the seventies. The South African situation then came into full view and was exposed to international attention. Naturally our people rose in response to these victories and from then on the international focus has never lifted from the South African scene. International support is in some sense a function of the intensity of struggle, (?my) [word indistinct]. Where the people seem to be content with their fate, international support weakens. But let the people rise [words indistinct] international support. We cannot, however, say that the support is sufficient. It is considerable. It is not sufficient. It is considerable because the ANC is recognized virtually (?everywhere) in the world.

[(Nkaya)] Having noted the growth [words indistinct] in international support, could we then confirm a report that certain (?sections on the) international front have been moving proposals that the ANC be recognized as the sole legitimate representative of the people of South Africa? And how does the movement respond to this question?

[Tambo] Well, in view of what I have said, this is understandable. Virtually the leading role of the ANC is recognized internationally, with some exceptions of course, and naturally. The proposals for the exclusive recognition of the ANC are not inspired by hostility against other movements (?if there are any). They respect the desire for genuine opponents of the regime [words indistinct] for the liberation of South Africa to fight under one banner. This makes sense: Unity is strength — one banner, the banner of the ANC, to unite under the umbrella of the ANC, the liberation movement of the people of South Africa, the organization which was formed 70 years ago which has been (?leading) all the time, which is leading today.

When we call for unity in action we are calling for a recognition of this (?fact) that the ANC is not (?its own) creation, it is the creation of the people themselves, and we must fight in unity. This is what has happened within South Africa. Different organizations with different constitutions, programs of action, and different ideological tendencies (?are nourished) by the common objective to overthrow the (?colonial) white minority system in our country. They accept this strategic objective set by the ANC. They speak the language of the ANC. They recognize its leadership. And I am talking not just about Africans who formed the ANC. I am talking about the people in South Africa who are opposed to the system, who over the years have become associated with the struggle led by the ANC over the years. And the ANC itself encourages, supports as much as possible the formation of new organizations — political and other organizations in the country. (?It assists), it has no quarrel with them. (?This is) because the quarrel is with the enemy of the people. And it is this focus, exclusive focus, on the part of the ANC upon the enemy which has drawn support for the ANC from a cross section of the South African population. And the world responds to this [word indistinct] proposals for the exclusive recognition of the ANC. We must of course say that this is being looked at in narrower terms by some of the people who believe (?in unity). They say the ANC should unite, for example, with the PAC [Pan-African Congress]. The PAC, like the ANC, is banned in South Africa, it is an illegal organization. It has members, it (?believes) like everybody else, is trying to find ways of tackling the enemy. But it is not only the PAC which is doing this, numerous organizations within South Africa [words indistinct] activity. What the ANC says is that we are there. Of course from time to time people have broken away from the ANC: Others have gone off to join the enemy. But the ANC is there all the time and, if we want to fight effectively, united. The ANC has its banners, national colors under which we fight, a leadership which has been tested in struggle, and which, as I have said, has forged a general united front within South Africa. It is this kind of united front which should be strengthened. And it would be strengthened if the international community, like the people of South Africa, gave recognition to the fact that the ANC is leading the struggle (?endeavor), if they encouraged (?them), everybody else to fight under the umbrella, under the colors, under the banner of the ANC. [end recording]

SWAZILAND

Prime Minister Announces New Cabinet Members

MB211811 Mbabane Domestic Service in siSwati 1550 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Announcement by Prime Minister Prince Bhekimpi in Mbabane on 21 November — recorded]

[Text] My fellow countrymen: I am sent by the monarchy of Swaziland, the queen mother, Ntombi. Following the holding of elections, the members of Parliament were selected. Yesterday the prime minister was appointed. It was quite evident that the Swazi national duty was being successfully fulfilled. What remained was the selection of the new cabinet ministers, who would assume responsibility for the various government departments and administrative councils. Today the monarch has sent me to announce the names of the new ministers so that the world may know them. It is common that at the beginning of the term of a new Parliament new ministers are selected and some returned to office. Whatever the powers that be deem fit is done. My fellow countrymen, the monarch has blessed us with these men, who are going to serve as cabinet ministers in the Kingdom of Swaziland:

Minister Without Portfolio — Mhambi Mnisi
Minister of Foreign Affairs — Velaphi Dlamini
Minister of Labor and Public Service — Mhlangano Matsebula
Minister of Defense and Youth — Col Fonono Dube
Minister of Justice — David Matse
Minister of Education — Dabulumjiva Nhlabatsi
Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives — Sipho Hezekiel Mamba
Minister of Finance — Sishayi S. Nxumalo
Minister of Commerce, Industry, Mines, and Economic Planning — Derick von Wissel
Minister of Natural Resources, Land Utilization, and Energy — Prince Khuzulwandle
Minister of Interior and Immigration — King Mtetwa
Minister of Health — Prince Phiwokwakhe
Minister of Works and Communication — Chief Sipho Shongwe

My fellow countrymen, these are the new cabinet ministers that will head the various ministries in the Kingdom of Swaziland this year. We have great hopes since the monarch has blessed us with these men, and they will carry out their assigned tasks with skill and efficiency, as has been the case in the past. In this world, many things happen — a matter of in and out. We hope that these men chosen by the monarch will be watchful and conduct themselves in a manner befitting the trust we place in them. Mr fellow countrymen, this is all that the monarch has sent me to tell you. These selected ministers are required to report to the cabinet office tomorrow at 0900. All ministers named should report at the prime minister's office at 0900. My fellow countrymen it is obvious that the electoral machinery has run its course under the guidance of the monarch. It is our hope that now the actual administrative functions will go full steam ahead.

My fellow countrymen, hail your royal highness [audience shouts: "hail your royal highness"], the queen mother [audience shouts: "the queen mother"].

New Ombudsman Given Wide Powers of Investigation

MB220644 Mbabane THE TIMES OF SWAZILAND in English 22 Nov 83 pp 1,16

[Text] The secretary of the Liqoqo, Mr Robert M. Mabila, has been appointed to be ombudsman, a new office created to serve as a public watchdog. The ombudsman will enjoy the same status as a cabinet minister and will be empowered to investigate any public officer, including other government ministers.

The announcement of the creation of the office of ombudsman — and Mr Mabila's appointment of the new post — is carried in a *GOVERNMENT GAZETTEE* extraordinary and is with immediate effect. The appointment was made by the Authorised Person, Prince Sozisa.

The gazette states that the ombudsman can investigate any public officer except the King or Queen Regent, the Authorised Person, or members of the Liqoqo. It makes no mention of the prime minister, implying that he can also be investigated.

ZAMBIA

Party Chief Criticizes Contact Group on Namibia

MB190648 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 18 Nov 83

[Text] The secretary general of the party, Mr Humphrey Mulemba, has said that frontline states feel betrayed by the Western Contact Group of five over Namibia because it has delayed the territory's independence. Mr Mulemba said today that the independent African states in the region felt that they have been taken for a ride after having invested a lot of hope in the abilities of the Contact Group to sway the racist South African Republic from its stubborn resistance against world opinion over Namibia. Mr Mulemba, who was speaking to a group of Norwegian journalists who called on him at his office, said that at first the Western Contact Group was welcome in the region and met leaders, but as time went on the members of the same group started introducing new elements to the problem serving only to delay the liberation process. The Angolan people are victims of the insistence by the United States to link Namibia's independence to the Cuban withdrawal from Angola. However, Mr Mulemba said that the African states may be mistaken in thinking that they had been taken for a ride, but they certainly deserve an explantion from the West on why it had departed from the set UN plan and Resolution 435.

On original economic cooperation, the party chief said that the formation of the Southern African Development Coordinating Conference would help break the reliance on South Africa forced on the region by years of colonial rule. He called on world nations to come forward and help in making the nine member-states realize their goals of achieving economic self-sufficiency.

ZIMBABWE

Mugabe Says West Exaggerates Matabeleland Operations

MB210902 Harare Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, has expressed government belief that Western observers have exaggerated the alleged atrocities on civilians by the 5th Brigade during operations against dissidents in some parts of Matabeleland. In an interview with the Mozambique magazine *TEMPO*, Comrade Mugabe said contrary to the Western reports, members of the brigade, made up mainly of former ZANLA combatants and 300 former ZIPRA men, have now become friendly with the people because since their deployment bandit activities have come to a halt. Noting that Zimbabwe's Government is a national one, the prime minister said the recent local government election victories by ZANU-PF in Matabeleland destroyed the myth that there are two ethnically based parties in the province.

Minister Reiterates Call for Multinational Force

MB210812 Harare Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, Comrade Witness Mangwende, has reiterated a view that an international volunteer force should be set up to eject racist occupation troops from Namibia if the Pretoria regime continues to refuse to implement the United Nations resolution on the territory.

In an interview on the Zimbabwe television program "The Nation" last night, Comrade Mangwende said Pretoria is delaying the granting of independence to Namibia by giving one excuse after another, thereby holding the international community to ransom. He added that he believed efforts should always be made to solve disputes through diplomacy, but a point is sometimes reached when one can no longer talk.

The minister said the suggestion by the Nigerian president, Alhaji Shehu Shagari, that Cuban troops in Angola be replaced with other forces as a [word indistinct] way of breaking the deadlock on Namibia is unwarranted. Such a move, he said, would be in line with the concept of linkage, which the frontline states and other countries have already rejected.

Comrade Mangwende also spoke about the strategies employed by racist South Africa in destabilizing the frontline states. The first is a military one, either by direct military action or supporting counterrevolutionary movements and bandits. The second is economic sabotage carried out on economic installations and the railway lines, while the third, which mainly affects Zimbabwe, is the setting up of a radio station to broadcast propaganda.

Minister Warns Parties Against Use of Force

MB200742 Harare Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 20 Nov 83

[Text] The minister of state for defense, Comrade Sydney Sekeremayi, has issued a warning to political parties seeking to topple the government through force of arms. Addressing a mass rally at (Nyamogovobo) school in the [words indistinct] northeast of Harare yesterday, Comrade Sekeremayi said the government will fight the parties to the bitter end. He told the rally that ZANU-PF wants unity in order to achieve meaningful progress in Zimbabwe. The minister urged Zimbabweans to be blind to tribal, ethnic, regional, and religious differences. Comrade Sekeremayi also warned (?prostitutes) that they would (?be stamped out) because the government will not compromise the country's hard-won independence.

Minister Zvobgo Discusses Police Raids

MB200642 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0715 GMT 19 Nov 83

[Text] Harare, Nov 19, SAPA — The Zimbabwe Government will issue regulations next week to clarify the rights of women being rounded up in the government's blitz against prostitutes, it was announced here. In an interview published today in *THE HERALD*, Zimbabwe's biggest daily newspaper, the minister of legal and parliamentary affairs, Dr Eddison Zvobgo, said the operation, which includes the rounding up of squatters and beggars, had been as a result of a decision by the ruling ZANU (PF) party's Central Committee.

In the government's first public response since the operation began two weeks ago, Dr Zvobgo said that everyone picked up in the swoop would be dealt with within five days, while social welfare officers decided whether or not they were vagrants, prostitutes or squatters. He admitted that police had been "over-zealous" in many cases, but said the minister of home affairs, Dr Herbert Ushewokunze, had instructed that "great care" had to be exercised when police went on their raids.

The only indication Dr Zvobgo gave of the future of those held in the blitz was that those confirmed as prostitutes, vagrants or squatters would be "held for rehabilitation." He said women in Zimbabwe had "every right" to freedom of movement and should not fear to go anywhere, whether alone or in company.